Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-94-186
Monday
26 September 1994

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Daily Report
Latin America

FBIS-LAT-94-186 *26 September 1994*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: Effective 1 October, the processing indicators appearing in brackets at the start of each item in this publication will be changed. All new indicators will begin with "FBIS" to make the material more easily identifiable. Some will also indicate whether the item has been translated from the vernacular or transcribed from English.

An Ω indicates a Foreign Media Note.

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Robaina Disapproves of Military Intervention in Haiti *[PRENSA LATINA]* 1
Pro-Aristide Figure Blames Bush Administration for Coup *[Havana Radio]* 1
Radio Reports OAS Wants End to Haitian Police Brutality *[Havana Radio]* 1
UN Military Observers Reportedly Begin Arriving in Haiti *[Havana Radio]* 1
Aristide Reportedly Assures Parliament To Decide on Amnesty *[Havana Radio]* 1
U.S.-Haitian Accord Said Influenced by Cedras' Wife *[PRENSA LATINA]* 1
Radio Reports Carter Urges Lifting of Blockade *[Havana Radio]* 2
Castro Willing To Give U.S. 'His Head' for Independence *[AFP]* 3
Radio: U.S. Coast Guard No Longer Picking Up Refugees *[Havana Radio]* 3
Ministry Statement Urges Guantanamo Refugees To Stay Put *[Havana Radio]* 3
Robaina Confirms Willingness To Meet With U.S. Legislators *[NOTIMEX]* 4
Remarks Before Departing for New York *[Havana TV]* 4
Radio Cites U.S. Military on Emigrant Transfers to Panama *[Havana Radio]* 5
Alarcon Reports to ANPP Panel on Migration Accord *[PRENSA LATINA]* 5
Laotian Foreign Minister Rejects U.S. Blockade *[PRENSA LATINA]* 5
Backs Cuban 'Right to Independence' *[PRENSA LATINA]* 5
Signs Accord With Robaina *[Havana TV]* 6
Raul Castro Closes Farmers Markets Seminar *[Havana TV]* 6
Farmers Market Regulations Detailed *[Havana Radio]* 6
Fish Farming Considered for Markets *[Havana Radio]* 7
ANAP Head on Operation of Markets *[Havana Radio]* 7
'Straight Talk' Discusses Markets *[Havana Radio]* 8
Legislative Leaders Note Importance of Assemblies, Markets *[Havana TV]* 10
Minister Discusses New Worker Incentives Strategy *[Havana Radio]* 11
Ministry To Implement Incentives for Health Care Workers *[Havana TV]* 11
Alarcon on Importance of Progress Report Assemblies *[Havana Radio]* 11

Dominican Republic

Military Opens Border to Haitians *[NOTIMEX]* 12
Foreign Minister Endorses End to Haiti Embargo *[Madrid EFE]* 12

Haiti

Aristide Convenes Parliament for Vote on Amnesty Law *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 12
Aristide, Prime Minister Malval Resume Contacts *[Madrid EFE]* 12
Aristide Urges Resumption of Air Traffic *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 13
Mayor Paul: U.S. Presence Should Promote Democracy *[Madrid TV]* 13
Cedras' Adviser: Aristide 'Will Never Return' *[PAGINA/12 23 Sep]* 14
De Facto Foreign Minister 'Skeptical' on Aristide Return *[JORNAL DO BRASIL 23 Sep]* 15
De Facto Government To Issue Election Timetable *[Nassau Radio]* 16
Deputies Prepare To Vote on Amnesty Law *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 17
Lawmakers Cited on Assembly Voting *[Madrid EFE]* 17
Provisional Council Secretary Discusses Elections *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 18

Amnesty Commission President Views Chamber Convocation *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 18
Senate President Urges Aristide To Resign *[PAGINA/12 22 Sep]* 19
Police Spokesman Deplores Shooting Incident in Cap Hatien *[AFP]* 20
U.S. Officer Cited on Incident *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 20
Cedras Visits Cap Haitien *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 20
Aristide Offers Condolences, Seeks Disarmament *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 21
Accord Reached With U.S. on Joint Police Patrol *[AFP]* 21
FRAPH Leader Welcomes Joint U.S. Agreement *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 21
Army Spokesman Denies U.S. Dismantling Heavy Weapons Unit *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 22
U.S. Move to Base May Allow Airport To Reopen 'Very Soon' *[Port-au-Prince Radio]* 22
Police Chief Francois' Whereabouts Still Unknown *[Madrid EFE]* 22
Right-Wing Group Opposed To U.S. Troops *[Madrid EFE]* 23
Pro-Aristide Demonstration Proceeds Without Incident *[AFP]* 24
Demonstrators Welcome Perry, Shalikashvili *[NOTIMEX]* 24
Police Arrest 2 Pro-Aristide Demonstrators *[NOTIMEX]* 24
Clubs Used To Disperse Pro-Aristide Demonstrators *[Madrid EFE]* 24
U.S. Soldiers Arrest 'Attache' for Threatening Protesters *[AFP]* 25

MEXICO

Salinas Outlines Tasks of World Trade Organization *[London FINANCIAL TIMES 26 Sep]* 26
Government Statement Bans Trade With Haiti *[LA JORNADA 22 Sep]* 27
Under Secretary on State Migration Initiative *[LA JORNADA 22 Sep]* 27
Under Secretary on Special Visa for Border Workers *[LA JORNADA 23 Sep]* 29
Bishops Note EZLN, Government Talks Not Suspended *[LA JORNADA 22 Sep]* 30
Government Secretary Carpizo Meets With CND Delegates *[LA JORNADA 22 Sep]* 30
PRD Issues Appeal for Democratic Reform *[LA JORNADA 22 Sep]* 31
PRI 'Regretfully' Accepts PAN Victory in Nuevo Leon *[UNOMASUNO 23 Sep]* 32
Bankers Explain New Regulatory Measures *[EL FINANCIERO 22 Sep]* 32
Launch of Satellite Set for Early Oct *[Mexico City TV]* 33
Correction to Madrazo, Bishops Demand EZLN Answer 34

CENTRAL AMERICA

Guatemala

De Leon Carpio Confirms Mission Going To Haiti *[Guatemala City TV]* 35
Three Explosions Reported in Capital; 1 Killed *[NOTIMEX]* 35
Police Defuse Explosive Device *[NOTIMEX]* 35
President Condemns Latest Attacks in Capital *[Hamburg DPA]* 36
URNG Leader: War To Continue Until Cease-Fire Signed *[ACAN]* 36
URNG Communique Denounces Government 'Repression' *[SIGLO VEINTIUNO 22 Sep]* 36

Honduras

Police Evict Rioters Inside Economy Ministry *[LA TRIBUNA 22 Sep]* 37
Discua on Police Budget, Civilian Control *[Tegucigalpa Radio]* 38

Panama

President Pardons Noriega Collaborators, Others *[Panama City Radio]* 39
Opposition Questions Pardons *[MAGAZINE DOMINICAL EL SIGLO 25 Sep]* 40
President on Dismissals, Modernization, Budget *[Fanama City TV]* 40
Cuban Foreign Minister's Cousin Reportedly Among Refugees
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 25 Sep] 40

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina

CGT Opens Menem Reelection Campaign, President Speaks *[NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS]* 41
Government Supports Salinas' Bid for WTO Presidency *[Mexico City TV]* 41

Argentina To Propose End to Subsidies at Americas Summit *[GAZETA MERCANTIL 22 Sep]* ... 41

Bolivia

Police To Join Multinational Force in Haiti *[Madrid EFE]* ... 42
Complementary Economic Agreements Signed With Chile *[La Paz TV]* ... 42

Brazil

Army Training To Join Possible UN Force in Haiti *[JORNAL DO BRASIL 22 Sep]* ... 43
Government Witndraws Ricupero's WTO Candidacy *[O GLOBO 23 Sep]* ... 43
Franco Not To Attend UN General Assembly Opening *[GAZETA MERCANTIL 22 Sep]* ... 43
Import Taxes on 4,000 More Products Reduced *[Brasilia Radio]* ... 43
PT Prepares Parallel Vote Counting Network *[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 22 Sep]* ... 44
Workers Party Coordinator Interviewed *[BRECHA 16 Sep]* ... 44

Chile

Government States 'Concern' Over Haiti Situation *[Madrid EFE]* ... 46
Government Favors Mexico's Salinas To Head WTO *[Madrid EFE]* ... 46
Foreign Minister Insulza Interviewed *[Santiago TV]* ... 46
Interior Minister Meets Coalition Leaders *[Santiago TV]* ... 47

Colombia

Reactions to, Discussions of Helicopter Incident ... 48
Defense Minister Interviewed *[Santa Fe de Bogota Radio]* ... 48
President Downplays Attack *[NOTIMEX]* ... 52
Sending Officials Into Jungle Questioned *[Santa Fe de Bogota TV]* ... 53
Guerrillas Suspected in Kidnapping of U.S. Citizen *[Hamburg DPA]* ... 53
Authorities Search for Scientist *[NOTIMEX]* ... 54
New Guerrilla Group Releases Legislator *[EL TIEMPO 21 Sep]* ... 54
President Backs Mexican President's WTO Candidacy *[NOTIMEX]* ... 54

Ecuador

Vice President Rejects Trade Restrictions *[AFP]* ... 55

Paraguay

Wasmosy Reorganizes Military Hierarchy *[AFP]* ... 55
Explains Changes *[AFP]* ... 55

Peru

Government Expresses Satisfaction, 'Regret' Over Haiti *[Madrid EFE]* ... 56
Fujimori Orders Military To 'Annihilate' Shining Path *[NOTIMEX]* ... 56
Car Bomb in Lima Injures Six, Causes Damage *[Madrid EFE]* ... 57

Venezuela

Country Asks GATT To Review Fuel Dispute With U.S. *[EL UNIVERSAL 23 Sep]* ... 57
GATT Protests U.S. Gasoline Import Ban *[Caracas Radio]* ... 57
Government Grants Asylum to 15 Cuban Rafters *[Caracas Radio]* ... 58
Airport Cordoned Off After Shoot-Out, Kidnapping *[NOTIMEX]* ... 58
Fogade Vice President Resigns *[Caracas Radio]* ... 58
Special Judge Requested for Money Laundering Case *[EL UNIVERSAL 21 Jul]* ... 58
Governors Association Names New Leaders *[EL UNIVERSAL 25 Jul]* ... 59
Chavez: 'Civic Protest,' Constituent Assembly Key *[EL TIEMPO 31 Jul]* ... 59

Cuba

Robaina Disapproves of Military Intervention in Haiti

PA2509183094 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1658 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Havana, 25 Sep (PL)—Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina said today that his country does not approve of the military intervention in Haiti, even if it was carried out under the auspices of the United Nations.

In remarks to PRENSA LATINA before his departure for New York, where he will participate in the 49th period of sessions of the UN General Assembly, Robaina referred to the military occupation in Haiti, noting that nothing justifies such an operation.

The United States invaded Haiti on 19 September, several weeks after the UN Security Council approved the measure.

The Cuban foreign minister said that the United Nations has thus become an instrument for carrying out actions that "we consider condemnable."

The United Nations can become the victim of operations that are given a different name these days. Cuba cannot agree to wars being given more civilized names, he stressed, referring to so-called humanitarian interventions, preventive diplomacy, or peacekeeping operations.

We do not believe democracy can be restored that way (with the invasion) when it is up to the people alone (to carry out that task). Nor do we believe that food can be carried to countries on the ends of cannons, as was the case in Somalia, he concluded.

Pro-Aristide Figure Blames Bush Administration for Coup

FL2309130194 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0900 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "Doing Radio" program]

[Text] Raoul Cedras, head of Haiti's de facto regime, has reaffirmed that he will resign as Haitian military chief on 15 October but that he will not leave the country.

Meanwhile, a figure close to ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide has accused Bush administration officials of organizing the coup against Aristide in 1991.

Radio Reports OAS Wants End to Haitian Police Brutality

FL2309152894 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1403 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The OAS Permanent Council ended its two-day meeting today by reiterating its support for deposed Haitian President Jean- Bertrand Aristide and by rejecting and expressing its concern over the brutal use of force by Haitian police against the civilian population, calling for it to end immediately.

UN Military Observers Reportedly Begin Arriving in Haiti

FL2409182494 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 24 Sep 94

[From the "National Radio News"]

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry and General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, will meet intervention forces in Haiti today. Pentagon sources have said that Perry and Shalikashvili will meet troops and the commanders of the occupation forces on the progress of the intervention. A U.S. Embassy spokesman in Port-au-Prince has confirmed that Perry and Shalikashvili will not meet Raoul Cedras, head of the Haitian Army.

Reliable sources have revealed that UN military observers began arriving in Port-au-Prince last night. The 12 officers arrived aboard a U.S. C-130 airplane dressed in their uniforms and wearing the UN blue beret. The group includes four New Zealanders, two Irishmen, four Bangladeshis, and two Frenchmen. It is not known why the four Argentine observers who were supposed to arrive did not do so and why they will reportedly be replaced.

Aristide Reportedly Assures Parliament To Decide on Amnesty

FL2509205494 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2002 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Colonel Barry Willey, U.S. military spokesman in Haiti, has confirmed that nine Haitian policemen were killed during a confrontation with U.S. Marines in Cap-Haitien last night. Willey said that the Haitian policemen fired first and were killed when U.S. Marines responded.

Meanwhile, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide has told Canadian television that the Haitian Parliament will decide on an eventual amnesty for the military leaders governing Haiti.

Bolivia awaits Aristide's return to the presidency to send 100 policemen to help create a new police force in the country, presently under U.S. occupation.

U.S.-Haitian Accord Said Influenced by Cedras' Wife

PA2509004694 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1226 GMT 24 Sep 94

["Exclusive" report by Carlos Fazio, Uruguayan PRENSA LATINA contributor, journalist, and writer: "Yannick's Guts"]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] [No dateline as received] U.S. President William Clinton played a joke on the international community.

He deployed the aircraft carrier Eisenhower to the Port-au-Prince coast, ordered the marines of the 10th Mountain Division, headed by paratrooper General Henry Sheldon, a veteran of the Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars, to be brought to Haitian coasts aboard their sophisticated Black Hawk helicopters, and then he pulled the stunt of saying that it was an operation of "cooperation."

The most tragicomic thing about it was that he sent former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, Colin Powell—former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—and crusty Sam Nunn, a senator expert on defense issues, to negotiate with the fearsome de facto rulers their departure from power and the country, but a woman, Yannick Cedras, ended up convincing them that all the mobilized infernal hardware would be of no avail in the face of her firm resolve to commit suicide with her children and husband before going into exile. And they were convinced.

Jimmy Carter's description of the scene that, he said, he experienced at Cedras' general garrison is pathetic. The only superpower in the world, negotiating with a group of assassins, wound up convinced by the guts of one woman, who has an enormous influence on her husband, that it was best to ignore the UN and OAS resolutions and sign a new agreement with the military's puppet president, Emile Jonassaint —who is rejected by the international community—and order bad guy Shelton to sit down and "cooperate" with the persons responsible for over 4,000 political murders.

"The true problem was his wife," the elderly Carter said regarding the negotiations with Cedras. "Mrs. Cedras' temper," he said, "turns her into one of the strongest and most fearsome women I have ever met." It is difficult to gauge how many women the former U.S. president has met in his life. Besides, that is not the problem. The unheard of thing about this case is that Clinton had ordered an invasion but wound up naively accepting the arguments of a determined Yannick Cedras, the "strongman's wife."

To round up the picture, Powell, the first black to hold the highest position of command in the U.S. Army and a man who enjoys great prestige and admiration among the Haitian "military," moved Cedras away from his wife, drew him aside and told him he wanted to have a "man to man, officer to officer," talk. Powell reportedly told him that the resignations would be "an act of courage" and would prevent the loss of human lives, including supposedly that of the intrepid Yannick and her little ones. "That is military honor."

This was followed by a private meeting by the Cedras couple, and good guy Cedras succeeded in convincing bad girl Yannick that what their friend Colin said was acceptable: they had to discuss the resignations, and that was that. In the midst of all of this, Commander Clinton had ordered his boys to attack to remove from power the persons who—according to his own righteous criteria—violated human rights with impunity when Jimmy telephoned him at the Oval Office to tell him to hold on, that Biamby had gotten nervous with the news that the marines were coming and to give him a chance, to trust in him. One can suppose that he had not told him about his impression of Yannick's temper.

The fact remains that Bill listened to his stately envoy, and something told him the best decision to honor the impressive name of the operation, Uphold Democracy, was precisely to uphold Cedras and his goons a little longer.

Then, Clinton halted everything, and the airplanes returned home. A day later, he sent General David Meade, General Shelton's second in command, the man who won the most decorations in Vietnam and the Persian Gulf, to fly in this Black Hawk to the Port-au-Prince beaches and say with his best smile that there would be no war, that everything was under control.

That is all folks: Cedras and his partner Biamby will not have to commit suicide, neither will Yannick and her little ones. Ah, yes, the chief of the fearsome Leopards will have to surrender power, at least until things cool down, and there will be no need for him to leave.

Uncle Sam's divine justice is just that, divine: General Cedras and his lieutenants will retire will full honors, and if he behaves well and does not engage in any more acts of folly—Powell must have advised rude Yannick well—the couple will be able to enter the presidential palace through the main gate in the next elections.

And Aristide? Provocateur James Traficant, a U.S. congressman with a mafioso's name, said on Capitol Hill that the best solution Washington could provide was to give Aristide a rifle and let him work it out for himself. The ending of a perfect tale.

Radio Reports Carter Urges Lifting of Blockade

FL2409010094 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Report by Marcos Castellon; from the "National Radio News"]

[Text] Former President James Carter said that the United States should reexamine its policy toward Cuba, and spoke out against the U.S. blockade of Cuba.

[Castellon] Former President Jimmy Carter gave a news conference at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, in which he publicly affirmed that the United States should reexamine its policy toward Cuba because Cubans have suffered enough from the economic embargo. This was an exceptionally clear call from a former U.S. President to lift the embargo. One must remember too that the now deceased President Richard Nixon, in a book he wrote

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

shortly before his death, also supported this argument. We are hearing a viewpoint favoring at least the reexamination of the terms of Cuban-U.S. relations in this post-Cold War period, a very interesting development.

Castro Willing To Give U.S. 'His Head' for Independence

PA2509182394 Paris AFP in Spanish 1645 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Caracas, 25 Sep (AFP)— In an exclusive interview published Sunday by the Venezuelan daily EL NACIONAL, Fidel Castro said he is willing to give the United States his head for Cuba's independence. "It is there for the taking. My head for the independence of Cuba, my head for the revolution, my head for socialism. I give it to them. I have given it to them for some time," Castro told his interviewer.

Regarding the U.S. policy toward his country, Castro said the U.S. blockade feels like the Himalayas on Cuba's shoulders as its aim is to starve the people into surrendering. He warned, however, that a naval blockade of the island has not resolved anything, and if they drop a nuclear bomb on Cuba, "they are not resolving anything, either."

He excludes former President Jimmy Carter from his criticism of the United States, as Castro defines him as a decent man "in a country where it is difficult to be a politician and decent."

"(Carter) has no cunning; he is a clean man. I have a very high opinion of Carter," he said.

When asked how has he been affected by the fact that the Latin American countries have left Cuba isolated, Castro said they have not been left totally isolated, "but pretty much so" in that the countries remain attuned to U.S. policy, as the agreement the regional leaders signed during the Rio de Janeiro summit shows.

Castro felt that to ask for the elimination of the blockade in a "disgraceful" manner, making it contingent upon matters that deal with Cuban independence and sovereignty, would be unacceptable to any self-respecting country.

"Although most of the Latin America countries oppose the violation of the principle of sovereignty, they are tearing to shreds the right of nonintervention," he added.

The leader of the Cuban revolution declined to comment on the installation of Colombian Cesar Gaviria Trujillo as OAS secretary general, as he felt that right now everything is an enigma, except for the Cuban stance.

Radio: U.S. Coast Guard No Longer Picking Up Refugees

FL2409133194 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 24 Sep 94

[From the "First Thing" program]

[Text] The U.S. Coast Guard has formally ended the practice of picking up illegal Cuban emigrants at sea. The situation reached crisis proportions in July and August, obligating the Coast Guard to pick up approximately 30,000 rafters in the Florida Straits after the Cuban Government declared that it would no longer guard U.S. borders. The immigration agreement signed by Cuba and the United States on 9 September ended the tense situation. A U.S. Coast Guard spokesman said that the flow of Cubans has been reduced to a minimum over the last few days.

Ministry Statement Urges Guantanamo Refugees To Stay Put

FL2409143694 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Statement issued by the Interior Ministry in Havana on 23 September; from the "Doing Radio" program—read by announcer]

[Text] A total of 59 Cuban citizens who were caught trying to emigrate to the United States escaped from camps on the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo between 1 and 22 September, most of them trying to cross the minefields of the free territory's defense toward Cuban lines. Without the dedicated and heroic efforts of the combatants of the border patrol brigade, who rescued them from the minefields at great risk to their own lives, anything could have happened.

Nevertheless, two of the above-mentioned escapees stepped on mines: One of them was killed on 16 September, as the public has already been told, and the other had to have a leg amputated.

Crossing this area is extremely dangerous, particularly at night. The weeds and darkness make it impossible to render aid. The authorities have used megaphones in every case to warn those who have been detected in the minefields to remain still or, if at night, to wait until morning to be rescued. Some have avoided the minefields and tried swimming to nearby Cuban positions on the east coast.

Cuban authorities have treated them with due consideration and respect, giving them clothing, food, and adequate shelter, as all the necessary information is being collected. Those with injuries are treated in our hospitals with all the urgency and care required. Relatives are immediately told of the fate of their loved ones. Each one details the experiences that prompted him to escape from the camps. They all say that they want to reintegrate back into Cuban society. The government aims to progressively reintegrate these citizens back into their place of origin and into their family circle.

This method of returning to Cuba is unacceptable, primarily due to the risk to the lives of those who carry out these actions and to the soldiers who guard them and help them. Base authorities should step up surveillance to avoid further escapes.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

The migration agreement signed in New York includes a clause regarding those who wish to voluntarily return from the so-called refugee camps inside or outside of the United States, a procedure that must be discussed and arranged through diplomatic channels in advance.

We implore Cuban citizens on the U.S. base at Guantanamo who wish to return to Cuba not to risk their lives and the lives of others unnecessarily by trying to cross the minefields or by escaping from that base through any other means. Any attempt to escape is extremely dangerous. Patience is required.

The Committees for the Defense of the Revolution have distributed approximately 6,000 cards to family members with information on those who emigrated from the country on their own. Information continues to be processed from public and other sources to provide relatives with information. As has been explained in the past, the information from public sources is incomplete. The most important thing in this matter is the agreement reached between the Cuban Foreign Relations Ministry and the U.S. Interests Section in Havana to facilitate the sending of cards to relatives, which would be picked up at the so-called refugee camps by the International Red Cross and later given to Cuban authorities for distribution. Interior Ministry 23 September 1994

Robaina Confirms Willingness To Meet With U.S. Legislators

PA2509202994 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1808 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Havana, 25 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina traveled to New York today to attend the 49th period of sessions of the UN General Assembly, where he will call for the cessation of the U.S. commercial embargo of the island.

In statements to the press prior to his departure, he confirmed that Cuba will attempt to obtain a rejection of the U.S. measure at this forum for the third consecutive year. According to Havana, the U.S. measure has resulted in losses of more than $44 billion to the island's economy.

Robaina indicated that Cuba hopes to convince the countries that abstained during previous votes, thereby increasing the number of countries in favor of lifting the embargo. Last year 88 nations adhered to the island's motion.

The Cuban foreign minister rejected the demands of those who condition the lifting of the embargo to a "democratization process" in Cuba and called the U.S. measure "illegal and immoral."

Robaina confirmed his willingness to meet with several U.S. congressmen who have expressed such an interest but recalled that he cannot go to Washington due to U.S. Government restrictions.

"It depends on whether the congressmen decide to go to New York or if they determine that I can travel. I definitely have time to talk to the legislators, regardless of how tight my schedule is," he added.

The issue of the U.S. blockade against Cuba has prompted two previous UN General Assembly sessions to approve resolutions condemning political pressure and economic embargoes such as those maintained by Washington since the 1960s.

"The blockade cannot last longer," is the title of an article in the JUEVENTUD REBELDE magazine. It refers to the recent requests to lift the embargo made by the presidents of the Foreign Relations Committees of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate.

Remarks Before Departing for New York

FL2509230294 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 1700 GMT 25 Sep 94

[News conference by Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina with unidentified Cuban and international correspondents in Havana on 25 September, shortly before Robaina's departure for New York to attend the UN General Assembly; from the "NTV Sunday Supplement" newscast—recorded]

[Text] [Robaina] I plan to make our position on several issues clear, including how we feel about the democratization process that they speak of and how it is far from being a true democratization process right now. Cuba must take the opportunity to firmly express what it thinks and what it feels about the unfair and criminal blockade against it. This is top priority, regarding our foreign policies. Cuba participates in this event as many nations express support for past resolutions. We have learned through bilateral contacts that more nations are now condemning these measures, and I believe that there is very strong opinion in the United States against the blockade.

[Correspondent] U.S. congressmen reportedly have invited you to visit the U.S. Congress. Is that true?

[Robaina] Several U.S. congressmen have been planning on this for some time but have not been able to have me visit since their free nation says that I cannot leave New York. If they want ....[pauses] It would be interesting for the congressmen and for us, but U.S. restrictions...[pauses] The world should know that I am only allowed to travel up to 25 miles from where I am staying. Therefore, I cannot go to New York. [sentence as heard]

The congressmen could come to New York or they could work out a deal whereby I would be able to travel. I assure you that I will make time to speak to the congressmen, no matter how tight my agenda. I am very interested in Congress learning about Cuban reality, its virtues and its defects. I will repeat in New York: We are neither the hellhole that some make us out to be nor the paradise that we want to be.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Radio Cites U.S. Military on Emigrant Transfers to Panama

FL2309134594 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "First Thing" program]

[Text] The U.S. Southern Command, based in the Panama Canal zone, has reported that Cuban emigrant transfers from Guantanamo Naval Base to Panama resumed on 22 September after a one-week suspension due to U.S. intervention in Haiti. A flight has arrived in Panama with 163 rafters, who will be placed in Camp Number One with 1,174 other Cubans.

Alarcon Reports to ANPP Panel on Migration Accord

PA2409035394 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 0110 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Havana, 22 Sep (PL)—The Foreign Relations Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] today said the recent proclamations approved by some factions within the Venezuelan Chamber of Deputies regarding the situation in Cuba are unacceptable.

The assembly discussed the draft of a declaration which refutes arguments expounded during a debate that took place in Venezuela's lower chamber and agreed to send it to Venezuela's Chamber of Deputies.

ANPP President Ricardo Alarcon; Deputies Jesus Montane, Melba Hernandez, Raul Suarez, and Ramon de la Cruz; and others took part in the meeting. They stressed the democratic character of Cuban society and the people's direct participation in the system.

The committee also listened to a report by Ricardo Alarcon regarding the migration agreement signed by the United States and Cuba, which he described as positive, because it also establishes the concept of bilateral cooperation and shared responsibility regarding the normal flow of immigrants and the rejection of illegal migration.

Alarcon stressed that one of the most important aspects of this document is the U.S. promise to abandon the practice of automatically admitting people who arrive in the United States after using violence to hijack ships or airplanes.

Later, behind closed doors, the deputies analyzed the Rio Group resolutions resulting from the meeting held this month in Brazil, especially the resolution regarding Cuba.

Laotian Foreign Minister Rejects U.S. Blockade

PA2509042194 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 1458 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Havana, 23 Sep (PL)—Laotian Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat expressed here today his country's total opposition to the U.S. blockade against Cuba and praised the decision of the Cuban people to face the difficulties caused by this policy.

Lengsavat arrived yesterday in this capital and today began talks with Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina, in his first official action after placing a wreath on the memorial of national hero Jose Marti.

In an exclusive interview with the daily GRANMA, the head of Laotian diplomacy added that he is convinced that negotiation is the only way to overcome differences.

He also said his visit will further strengthen the ties of solidarity with Cuba, which have existed well before the establishment of diplomatic relations almost 20 years ago, and will pave the way for a scientific-technological exchange.

Laotian foreign policy is based on the principles of peace, friendship, independence, and cooperation, which have served to unite ties with neighboring countries such as Vietnam, China and improve ties with Thailand, Lengsavat underscored.

Regarding his country's internal strategy to overcome underdevelopment, the leader explained that a policy of renewal began in 1986, allowing the participation of state, cooperative, and private sectors, as well as mixed enterprises in agriculture.

He stressed that since 1988, there is a Capital Investment Law and there are nearly 500 programs in different stages of execution, including the construction of an electric power plant to take advantage of the hydraulic potential of the Indochinese country.

Backs Cuban 'Right to Independence'

PA2509042694 Havana PRENSA LATINA in Spanish 2244 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Havana, 23 Sep (PL)—Cuba has the right to choose its own path, and we defend this country's right to independence, said Laotian Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat, who arrived in this capital for an official visit on Wednesday.

The visitor said that his country rejects the U.S. blockade during a news conference after he was greeted by the diplomatic corps accredited to this country and after a meeting with his Cuban counterpart Roberto Robaina.

He also underscored his government's interest in finding new forms of cooperation between the two nations, which until now had focused on the dissemination and marketing of postal stamps.

In this regard, the minister identified the sugar and electricity industries, and sports as possible areas for exchange.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

He explained that in Laos, there are currently about 500 foreign investment projects in various stages of implementation that amount to $1 billion in the textile, electricity, and mine industries, as well as consumption goods.

The minister said that 21 countries are currently investing in that Asian nation, including Thailand, Taiwan, the United States, and Austrialia.

Today, the foreign ministers of Laos and Cuba renewed a cooperation agreement between their Foreign Ministries that includes an exchange of delegations and high-level talks on current and bilateral issues, among others.

Robaina today underscored the importance of historical ties between the two nations and noted that "we have shared trenches in different battles" at the international level.

Cuba and Laos have maintained diplomatic relations since 4 November 1974.

Signs Accord With Robaina

FL2409020494 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 24 Sep 94

[From the "NTV" newscast; passages in quotation marks recorded]

[Text] On the second day of his visit in Cuba, Laotian Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat held official meetings with his Cuban counterpart Roberto Robaina. Early this morning, in the company of Robaina, he placed a floral wreath at the Jose Marti monument. After holding official talks at the Foreign Ministry, the two leaders renewed a plan of cooperation between the Foreign Ministries, which includes the exchange of delegations and high-level talks on bilateral issues, the principal current issues, and the position of the two governments in the international arena.

Minutes after the signing of this document, which extends through 1998, Robaina expressed the following:

[Robaina] "I know that the sugar, electrical, and sports branches are the main areas of exchange. I believe that we have talked about an exchange between foreign ministries, about the things that correspond to the diplomatic sphere. Let us not limit ourselves to strictly diplomatic relations."

Somsavat Lengsavat was also greeted by the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba. Later in the afternoon, the Laotian foreign minister visited the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples and held a meeting with the national and international press. There he explained the purpose of this visit:

[Lengsavat, in Laotian with passage by passage translation into Spanish] "We have discussed cooperation in the areas of sugar and medicine production."

Even though relations between Cuba and Laos are more than 20 years old, today the ties are progressing toward a new phase marked by an interest in international cooperation.

Raul Castro Closes Farmers Markets Seminar

FL2309123994 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Sep 94

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[Excerpts] Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Cuban Communist Party [PCC] Central Committee, has closed the two- day national farmers markets seminar at the Nico Lopez School, in Havana. [passage omitted]

Carlos Lage, secretary of the executive council of the Council of Ministers, and other PCC Politburo members attended the seminar:

[Begin Castro recording] I am sure that many of you read Friday's newspaper article on my interview with reporter Luis Baez. The problem is not that [words indistinct]. He who agrees with all these ideas or principles...[pauses] I have said many times that this is nothing new, that it could be a matter of new or different words being used to describe them. I said during my interview and at various meetings across the country and at the last National Assembly that if we agree with what is expressed, the most important thing then is that each of us consider the ideas and critique ourselves. No one here is sinless. To those who are here, as I said during the meeting of western provinces: Let he who is without sin cast the first stone. The problem lies in considering the ideas that we share. The best way to start is to address our own shortcomings and not the shortcomings of others. [end recording]

Farmers Market Regulations Detailed

FL2309170494 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 22 Sep 94

[Discussion between commentator Diosdado Maso and unidentified correspondent; from the "Exclusive" program—recorded]

[Excerpt] [Maso] Before answering any questions, I would like to remind listeners that the farmers markets aim to boost agricultural production and undermine the effects of the black market, which has caused so much damage and generated so much criticism. Even so, we sometimes fall into the hands of that black market. We should probably call it the underground market. I do not know why all bad things are associated with black.

Farmers markets will offer products that are not currently available, such as tamarind, Spanish lime, kiwi, and other fruits that many children do not know. The people can buy surplus produce. I already know of several basic cooperative production units that will take

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

their surplus produce to market. This is essential to boosting Cuban agricultural production.

[Correspondent] Who must we see before participating in the markets?

[Maso] You must see the agricultural representative, the domestic trade representative, and the administrative council of the particular market in any given municipality. If it involves a people's council, then you must see the council president.

[Correspondent] Who can represent the farmers at the markets?

[Maso] The markets are flexibile and dynamic, maintain a certain amount of integrity, and are void of any bureaucratic mechanisms. Therefore, relatives can serve as representatives for the many farmers who do not like to go to market. We want them to produce.

[Correspondent] I have relatives who are farmers.

[Maso] I know. You can represent them if you so wish. It does not matter who is chosen to go to market. Keep in mind that they are not middlemen: These legal representatives are registered and carry identification and can represent more than one farmer.

[Correspondent] Can people sell cooked products in the markets?

[Maso] Yes, of course.

[Correspondent] Can a buyer from Marianao, for instance, buy products in Havana Vieja that are not available in Marianao and resell them in Marianao?

[Maso] You can be sure that he will be penalized severely. We must be objective, considering the harsh reality through which we are living. Sometimes we look the other way. It will not be fair to allow people to resell produce in the streets once the markets start operating. Therefore, those doing this should be punished.

[Correspondent] Can a person from one municipality buy in a different municipality?

[Maso] Yes. He can buy in markets in any municipality. [passage omitted]

Fish Farming Considered for Markets

FL2409011794 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Commentary by Diosdado Maso; from the "National Radio News"]

[Text] In recent times, much has been said about the Cuban fish farming industry. Fish farming has always occupied a portion of our information with regard to the people's nutrition. We have also said that Cuba has one of the best infrastructures among Third World countries as to water resources and the possibilities for fish farming. Perhaps that is why so many people have asked why fish will not be offered in the farmers markets which will be opened gradually as of 1 October.

Cuba, as has been reported, is privileged in its infrastructure for fish farming in large, medium, and small reservoirs. In our country there are even some provinces with reservoirs exceeding 18,000 cubic meters. Why then is our production so small?

First of all, because fish farming, even though it is advantageous, is very resource-intensive. In recent years, this branch has suffered due to the lack of fish, ice [hielo], salt, and in the case of the large reservoirs, vehicles—I am referring to boats. Moreover, other things that affect this industry are the lack of skill, of technological discipline, of favorable working conditions, and the consequences of unscrupulous people fishing to enrich themselves using this means.

The farmers markets will demand greater contributions from this sector. I believe that, as in the rest of the agricultural sectors, it will stimulate production. World consumption of protein through meat exceeds 180 million tons, and 100 million through fish. This is because fish is the most inexpensive meat product among similar protein foods.

If we exploit our reservoirs effectively, fish may—and of this I have no doubt—in the near future, be included in the farmers markets. That is exactly what we need.

ANAP Head on Operation of Markets

FL2409014294 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "National Radio News"; passages in quotation marks Orlando Lugo Fonte recordings]

[Text] Orlando Lugo Fonte, president of the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP], was on the "Doing Radio" program this morning where he gave details on operation of the farmers markets, which because of its interest, we now rebroadcast for listeners of the "National Radio News" program.

When asked about the flexibility of Decree 191 and the real possibilities of this type of supply, Lugo Fonte said:

"Well, we have tried to make the decree and regulations as flexible as possible. The objectives of the farmers market, as you well know, are very important. The first objective is to increase production and increase the efficient use of the land. We must make sure, at all costs, that all cultivable land is producing foodstuffs through the Basic Cooperative Production Units [UBPC's], the Agricultural-Livestock Cooperatives [CPA's], the independent farmers, and those comrades who have been given land.

"There is great interest among the population work the land. That is very positive because as we have said so many times, and which we must repeat, the market will

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

not solve the problem overnight. We will solve the problem at the same rate that we increase our production.

"Logically, we will provide flexibility for the state collection agencies and for the producers to participate in this market, to sell their products and their surplus. Logically, we cannot be too flexible with plan noncompliance. Compliance with the plan is something that must be very rigid because what is collected through the contracts with the producers is needed for daycare centers, schools, hospitals, some important work centers that need those products, exportation, tourism, and the industries. We must achieve a plan that will solve all of these problems."

So far as the products that can and cannot be sold in these new markets, which would begin operating as of 1 October, the president of the ANAP said:

"There will be products that will be contracted and products that will not be contracted. Regarding the latter, the producer may participate in the market with 100 percent of the surplus of what he produces after his own consumption."

Lugo explained that there will be many small farmers who will not be contracted, and therefore will be able to participate in the market freely. They can bring all their surplus, or 100 percent of their production. He added that anyone who has a parcel can bring all their products, including plantains, yucca, and yams. The limitations are for the farms, cooperatives, and other enterprises that do have contracts with the state. Lugo Fonte stated that in the case of rice, the only ones that cannot sell are the rice-growing agroindustrial complexes.

With regard to meat, Lugo Fonte underscored that this is similar. He added that pork, poultry, goat, lamb, and rabbits may be offered by people who do not specialize in those products.

"To date—and we must be completely honest—the production plans have been a bit inconsistent. To end the year—in the months of October, November, and December—an analysis is being conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture, directly with producers. The analysis determines what their stock is for the end of the year. Based on this, a contract is being made with these producers. Part of their production is being contracted so they can send it to the state collection agency and so that they can take the surplus to the farmers markets."

Furthermore, Lugo Fonte indicated that those with parcels [parceleros] can participate in the market, but have the option of selling the products right on the parcel if they wish to do so. Questioned on the possibility of selling prepared foods, he said this was considered a possibility, and that roast pork may be sold, among other possibilities.

One of the concerns expressed by a listener has to do with the guarantee of agricultural products distributed through the ration booklets, to which Lugo Fonte responded:

"We are taking precise care of the plan, and sanctions will be imposed on producers who participate in the farmers markets without having met their plan. With that sanction, we are making sure that the plan is met because the products of that plan are for the ration booklets and for other social consumption, as Article 2 of the decree states."

Another statement by the president of the ANAP has to do with the decision of fishermen not to participate, which means that the sale of fish is excluded. He restated the traditional position of Cuban peasants:

"The peasants are going to participate in this market as well as in the cooperatives. They will try to meet the production goals. Hopefully, sanctions will not have to be imposed on anyone. We are going to increase our production, we are going to make an effort so that all the land in the hands of small farmers and cooperatives are producing efficiently, which is the least we can do, in eternal gratitude to the fatherland and the Revolution."

'Straight Talk' Discusses Markets

FL2309181094 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Sep 94

["Straight Talk" program with host Osvaldo Rodriguez and reporter Fernando Davalos]

[Text] [Rodriguez] Davalos, yesterday we were discussing capped prices and how prices could be controlled. Some say that prices should always be regulated and that the farmers markets should have regulated prices. We think that the idea of a supply and demand system should be maintained, as we stated yesterday. I invite you to return to that issue. Undoubtedly, the issue that is being discussed with regard to the farmers markets is prices, because everything else has been accepted by the consumers. Consumers will benefit from the products, but they will be affected by the prices. I invite you to continue chatting about the issue.

[Davalos] First, based on respect to our listeners and to ourselves, I think that we should say that we are talking about something that has not even gotten underway yet. It is very important to see what is going to happen. We have all these opinions, which are based on the experience we had in 1980. In any case, this experience has not yet begun. Farmers markets as they have been conceived, as was explained in yesterday's newspaper, are not a reality yet. They are a project. Let us wait a bit yet. However, we can state and advance some ideas. Well, let us do so then.

[Rodriguez] Davalos, I think we can because that supply and demand market is going to have high prices.

[Davalos] We are talking about capped prices and supply and demand with reference to the last market and not this one. However, I think this is good and valid...

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Rodriguez, interrupting] I think people are thinking about the present, they are thinking about the black market because that...

[Davalos, interrupting] Yes, that is what people are worried about.

[Rodriguez] Because what the black market definitely has is a free supply and demand system. You have seen that in that supply and demand system when supply drops, demand increases and prices soar. I think that Cuban consumers have felt, with different intensity, the scares left by outrageous prices. I think that there is a parallel situation, the devaluation of our national currency due to excess circulation. I invite you to reason why the reduction of excess circulation will signify a reduction in prices, even if the supply and demand is the same.

[Davalos] These things are already happening, even though the corrective economic process has only been in effect a few short months. Furthermore, I would say, straight talking as our program demands, that this is being felt even in the black market. There are hints that this is happening. However, I think that the price problem is not the main concern. Do not think that the fact that farmers markets' prices are going to be this or that amount will fill us with joy. That is something that will always be very unpopular and very hard. However, it is a necessary measure. Fixed prices and capped prices are the ones in the ration booklets. The ration booklets are for people with lower incomes, and it's the mechanism through which they assure getting rice, milk, sugar, and other basic products, these are at a fixed price.

[Rodriguez] Today, in the world...[pauses] The other day, a listener told me that he disliked it when I spoke about the world. I answered that Cuba is part of the world and that we are not alone. We must talk about the world because we live in it. In this world, it is very strange to have a country where there are fixed prices. I think that was something that was very justly implemented by socialism. We are leaving behind that phase, that fair market, where prices were fixed and you were protected from price fluctuations. Unfortunately, I do say with great pain that today we must face the reality imposed on us from outside. I recently discussed this with several colleagues. The supply and demand system is something that should be applauded because we are going to have products that we do not have now due to the fact that producers are going to be stimulated. However, I think that facing a supply and demand type market will be something hard for the consumer. It is something that will be a shock for the consumer, especially for Cuban consumers, who are not accustomed to this anymore. I think that it will be a shock. Davalos, I invite you to continue.

[Davalos] First, I want to clarify that our society is not going to forget Cuba's lower income sectors.

[Rodriguez] I am certain of that.

[Davalos] That is a matter of principle. If we had a society of another type, it would be different, one of these neoliberal societies where the market is like an individual without piety or compassion. Look what happened a few months ago in Argentina. We saw it on television. The old folks, the retirees, could not make ends meet with their pensions. Why was this? Because Argentina's market prices were soaring, everything is expensive...[pauses] Oh, I am so sorry that you have been a teacher, that you've been working all of your life, that you cannot buy this.

[Rodriguez] There is something that the workers with fixed salaries—in Cuba, the majority of workers have fixed salaries—are worried about: Current salaries do not make ends meet. It is very hard to maintain a family with todays salaries and paying the prices we have today...

[Davalos, interrupting] Black market prices.

[Rodriguez] Yes, black market prices. I was referring to the cost of living. The farmers markets will mean institutionalizing prices according to supply and demand. The worry is that since prices are going to be institutionalized, there is not going to be any type of subsidy for the average salaried worker. I say average and not the low salaried workers. We must bear in mind what has always been said, the objective of all these economic measure established in Cuba during this last year should lead to labor and salary realignment throughout our whole system. That should mean being able to have more than one job or that you can earn more than one salary where you work.

[Davalos] And being better organized with your salary.

[Rodriguez] Of course.

[Davalos] And take better care of your peso. We have already started to see that people do not have pesos to throw away. There are products that are slowly being reduced in price, slowly but they are coming down. People are taking prices more into consideration due to these corrective economic measures. In any case, I repeat that the farmers markets will work that way, will be objective with its prices. You may not be able to buy five kilos of yams, but you will be able to buy two kilos. There will be some that buy four kilos. That may be unfair because he is some type of bandit. I do not want to say it, but those who have money are not necessarily those who work hardest. Society must reflect the fact that those who live a little better are those who work hardest. That is the principle of our society. We must fight for that. Nowadays we see things...[pauses] Who is that guy? Oh yes, I know him. He is from the market. The market has its restrictions to protect those with lower incomes. The ration booklet exists...[pauses] will continue to exist for time being. It will guarantee people fixed prices and basic products with lower prices. We must use the market, so the market stimulates producers.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Rodriguez] That is very important. During our discussion on prices, we have mentioned the dark aspect of a market, the part that affects consumers the most. In any case, today the black market is supplying consumers. Some people are saying that if there are so many products on the black market, why can those products not be at the normal markets, the official markets? The problem is that there are too many producers. I think that one of the advantages of Decree 141, recently approved, is that it calls for all of these producers to sell their products openly.

[Davalos] The black market is thievery and dishonesty. That is what happens at the black market, Osvaldo. There is also lack of organization on our part. Talking straight, I say that there is too much carelessness in many warehouses. There is a lot of carelessness in guarding products, and those products seep into the black market. People are tired of that happening. They are asking: How is it possible that I cannot get soap at a store yet they have it on the streets? Quite simply, they steal it from the shop, the warehouse, or from the truck that is transporting it.

[Rodriguez] I think that no matter how many things we discuss about prices, the main topic of our discussion, producers are going to be stimulated to participate in these farmers markets. They can take the produce not contracted with the state. At the same time, the state's contracted amounts will not increase if the producer increases his production. When producers increase production, it will mean more production to take to the farmers markets. The state will not discourage producers. We must be careful with this. I invite you to analyze what could happen. I think we are getting ahead of the issue, we are anticipating events. Davalos, comment on the territorial decisions. We should alert listeners to some of the situations that may arise.

[Davalos] Yes, I think we should. You are going to have to forgive me but sometimes we act as if this was a federal republic. I believe that implementing...

[Rodriguez, interrupting] What am I to forgive? That once more you are...[pauses] we are in a federal republic?

[Davalos] No, no. Some local authorities make certain decisions as if they were in another country. There is a series of laws and regulations that must be obeyed throughout the Republic of Cuba. Some local initiatives have been wrong. The authorities have to be very alert to this experience so that elephants are not sold at the farmers markets. Alertness is fundamental. Many people may turn their backs on this by saying: No, no that is a farmers market with a supply and demand system and it's none of my business. There are authorities that turn their back on this problem.

[Rodriguez] You are thinking about those who might not want to get involved. However, there could be those who hinder the farmers markets. I think you were saying in yesterday's program there are some opinions against the farmers markets and some of those opinions could belong to officials. Those officials have to obey the state's decree because it has been approved by all the pertinent entities. The farmers markets could be hindered, especially by bureaucrats.

[Davalos] What we said at the beginning, there is a legal instrument, this decree, that expresses the will of the government and our society to carry out this idea. The producers should feel reassured by this. We have the will, the law, and now we are going to make it work, but we must revive confidence. This will not pass. This is a decision, a measure that is within the development of measures that are being taken in Cuba to pull out of the special period. I fear there might be some decisions taken that might hinder this by pretending to avoid obstacles. Maybe some of the smaller producers are less than confident. No, this is a Cuban law, it expresses the will of our society. This is not something that is going to end tomorrow.

[Rodriguez] Our listeners also worry about the return of the so-called bandits of Rio Frio [bandidos de Rio Frio] and the return of excessively wealthy producers. I think that is why there are taxes. What do you think?

[Davalos] Today our society is better prepared for a situation like that. We have a tax system, recently approved, and we know that the problem exists. I think that apart from those instruments which serve to protect the people, we must create an atmosphere of honesty, a social pact, that will improve our economy. We are not going to look upon producers that participate at the farmers markets as if they were our enemies.

[Rodriguez] By no means. They are feeding us.

[Davalos] Yes, but they also have obligations to keep. We must look at this experience as something necessary for Cuba.

[Rodriguez] Many thanks to Fernando Davalos.

Legislative Leaders Note Importance of Assemblies, Markets

FL2309120194 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[Text] Ricardo Alarcon, National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] president, has stressed the importance of real and active participation in the upcoming progress report assemblies. Alarcon told a news conference at ANPP Headquarters that these assemblies will be held nationwide 15 October-30 November. He added that it is even more important that the assemblies involve delegates and voters, in light of the deficiencies of past progress reports and Cuba's current economic and political circumstances:

[Begin Alarcon recording] If the problems are greater and if credibility is blemished, then with even more

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

reason we should strive not only for attendance but also for the people's active participation in the assemblies. [end recording]

ANPP Vice President Jaime Crombet said that the delegates should be ready for the new farmers markets to open. The assemblies could also be places to offer suggestions or express concerns on the matter:

[Begin Crombet recording] The most important thing in this battle is to create an incentive for agricultural-livestock production so no stone is left unturned. This is what the markets should encourage. Of course, there will be additional consequences as these markets grow and multiply. This does not mean that the regulated market will disappear or that the sale of other products at controlled prices will disappear. [end recording]

These progress report assemblies will be held just months after the beginning of a new crusade for truth and the process of systematizing work. These could be the real exercise of democracy and the people's government.

Minister Discusses New Worker Incentives Strategy

FL2309144694 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Sep 94

[From the "National Radio News"]

[Text] Finance and Prices Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez told reporter Mariela Diaz how the incentives strategy works for workers in the most important economic sectors:

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] We must boost certain sectors and quickly incorporate the results into the economy. The incentives system needs to produce results as quickly as possible, without utilizing a huge amount of resources or developing a more complex situation. Although the boost will be across the board, incentives will be introduced in different sectors according to importance, self-financing possibilities, or state-financing prospects.

[Diaz] This means that incentives or salary changes will take place in most sectors?

[Rodriguez] We need to perfect our salary system. Our system is evolving. Salary ultimately needs to be the proper incentive for workers. We now must give incentives in the way of products, but this should not be the tendency in the future. We still do not know how long we need to work to improve the system. The incentives system has a strict regulation mechanism. Incentives will not be handed out; they must be earned through hard work. The incentives system recognizes efforts but rewards results.

[Diaz] Is this kind of incentives system going to be applied to the sugarcane harvest? Are dollars or certificates going to be given to sugarcane workers?

[Rodriguez] I cannot release any information on this topic. We are discussing it. Obviously, the sugarcane sector must be considered in the evaluation. However, we must discuss the situation further before announcing a definitive solution. [end recording]

Ministry To Implement Incentives for Health Care Workers

FL2309124394 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Sep 94

[From the "NTV" newscast]

[Text] A new system of incentives for health care workers in hospitals, nursing homes, and institutions for the handicapped will go into effect in October in an effort to improve the quality of health care. The Public Health Ministry is implementing new measures as part of a people's welfare program in an effort to improve the quality of health care. The plan allows for salary adjustments to cover double shifts for nurses and for overtime for personnel providing quality care. Havana's approximately 60 health centers will receive a boost in their own resources and in support from other organizations. A total of 6 million pesos—approximately $2 million—is needed to replenish the system with appliances, refrigeration equipment, freon gas, water pumps, toiletries, and hygiene and other products. An inspection team was formed to pay repeated and surprise visits to health care centers. The team has paid several visits so far and found workers lacking professionalism or ethics. The solutions to these problems will depend on rigorous management at the centers.

Alarcon on Importance of Progress Report Assemblies

FL2409010894 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "National Radio News"]

[Text] The third meeting of progress report assemblies between delegates and their voters will take place in the second half of October, in the seventh term of the Peoples Council. In explaining the proposed objectives to the press, Ricardo Alarcon, president of the National Assembly, stressed that this must become the most important political meeting of the community. It must be focused on finding solutions to the problems. It is not a matter of not proposing solutions, or people not expressing their criticism, but rather the opposite—it is a matter of successfully identifying which of the many problems we can solve the most quickly, or those whose resolution will help us solve the rest.

In a letter sent to delegates and deputies, Alarcon said that overcoming shortcomings that existed in previous progress report assemblies could not be put off, such as reducing the number of assemblies per district [circunscripciones], which effectively reduced the quality of the exchanges. The participation of administrative leaders in the progress report assemblies will be vital to resolving the concerns and criticisms of the people.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Dominican Republic

Military Opens Border to Haitians

PA2309220994 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1749 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Santo Domingo, 23 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Dominican military authorities patrolling the border with Haiti have begun allowing Haitians to enter the Dominican Republic to purchase food, although the Haitians must return to their places of origin on the same day.

Local military sources reported that this policy will prevent the sale of fuel in compliance with the UN embargo imposed on Haiti to pressure the ouster of the coupist military regime.

The authorities also announced the implementation of a costly health program to keep possible Haitian visitors or migrants from introducing diseases into the Dominican population.

On Thursday, Dominican stores were packed with Haitians who came in droves to buy food following a relaxation of the embargo. According to official reports, Dajabon, a Dominican town located 300 km from Santo Domingo, had the largest number of Haitians who wanted to supply themselves with products that are scarce in Haiti.

Military leaders said 15,000 soldiers are deployed along the 388-km-long border on patrol missions to prevent the sale of fuel to Haiti and to ensure compliance with the guidelines regarding the entrance of Haitians.

International military observers have withdrawn from the border area to the Dominican capital and are now lodged in hotels awaiting new instructions, according to Camilo Nazir, the Dominican military commander in charge of the border area. The foreign military observers—88 in all from the United States, Canada, and Argentina—were originally deployed to monitor compliance with the UN Security Council's blockade on Haiti.

Meanwhile, Dominican Health Minister Victor Garcia announced that the health program along the border will require an investment of $700,000, which will be provided by the European Union via the WHO. The main diseases the program is seeking to prevent from spreading are AIDS and malaria, which Haitian migrants could introduce into the Dominican Republic.

Analysts contend that the U.S. military occupation, which began early this week in Haiti under a UN mandate, may generate an exodus of Haitians toward the Dominican Republic, especially if violence sponsored by the government of the military coupists continues against civilians.

Trade between the two countries of Hispaniola Island has a long tradition. Thousands of Haitians have worked on Dominican sugar plantations, and there is a market in Santo Domingo that used to be frequented by Haitians before the blockade.

Foreign Minister Endorses End to Haiti Embargo

PA2309231394 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2149 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Santo Domingo, 23 Sep (EFE)—Dominican Foreign Minister Carlos Morales Troncoso today said his government will ask UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to repeal the economic embargo on Haiti, the press office of the Presidency has reported.

The minister said there is no longer any reason for the economic and oil embargo in the wake of the international intervention led by the United States. The sooner the embargo is eliminated, the better for trade between Haiti and the Dominican Republic, he added.

He said everything is normal along the border between the two nations that share Hispaniola Island. He also said the Dominican Republic is allowing Haitians to cross into Dajabon in the northwest and into Jimani in the southwest to purchase food and medicine every Monday and Friday. The minister's remarks were released by the Presidency's Press and Information Office.

Haiti

Aristide Convenes Parliament for Vote on Amnesty Law

FL2609114394 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1945 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] President Jean-Bertrand Aristide has convened the parliament for 28 September for a vote on the amnesty law. Haitian President Aristide has decided to convene the parliament in Port-au-Prince for 28 September in order to place an amnesty bill before them, according to a communique issued by the head of state in exile in Washington.

In order to speed up the process of full restoration of constitutional order and following the amnesty decree dated 3 October 1993 promulgated under the Governors Island agreement, we have convened an extraordinary session of the parliament for Wednesday, 28 September so they can analyze an amnesty bill, says the communique. According to the information service of President Aristide, the latter has asked about 40 deputies in exile to enter Port-au-Prince to join the elected representatives who have remained on the island so the required quorum can be achieved.

Aristide, Prime Minister Malval Resume Contacts

PA2309161094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1412 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Report by Herold Jean-Francois]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 23 Sep (EFE)—Constitutional government sources told EFE today, Friday, that ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide resumed contacts with Prime Minister Robert Malval. Through Malval, Aristide asked retired General Jean Beliotte—his defense minister—to begin contacts with the U.S. military chiefs who are in Haiti on a "peace mission" to organize the transition.

According to the agreement signed in Port-au-Prince on 18 September by a U.S. delegation and the representatives of the military government, the coup leaders will have to leave their posts before 15 October.

Since Malval's resignation on 15 December 1993, direct contacts between him and Aristide have not taken place. Despite his dismissal, Malval said that he would remain in the post until the president appointed his successor, as stipulated by the Constitution. Despite the pressures Aristide received to appoint a new prime minister, he never replaced Malval.

President Aristide and Malval resumed contacts following a misunderstanding due to differences on various matters. Both Aristide and Malval had disagreements over the organization of a national conference, a proposal made by Malval that Aristide rejected because it assumed his return to the country. Aristide considered this proposal unwise in light of the lack of security.

Since the press began publishing confidential correspondence between Aristide and Malval, relations between them have worsened even further, and Malval's government broke into two groups. Several ministers then refused to participate in meetings held by the constitutional government. Those ministers who withdrew from Malval had continuous contacts with Aristide, who has been in exile in Washington since 29 September 1993, when a military junta led by Army chief General Raoul Cedras overthrew him.

Malval was in charge of public administration in Haiti until 11 May, when the military imposed Emile Jonassaint as "de facto" president. On 16 May, Malval told Cedras that he was not worthy of leading the Haitian Armed Forces and proclaimed that only his government had constitutional legitimacy. From that moment, the Haitian public opinion offered its support to the prime minister, who had remained quiet since his dismissal in December 1993.

Several political sources told EFE that this week, there was an exchange of letters between Malval and Aristide, which drew the two Haitian leaders closer and which heralds a new phase in their personal relations.

Aristide Urges Resumption of Air Traffic

FL2609124994 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 2120 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] In a statement Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide called on countries such as the United States to put an end to the unilateral sanctions particularly by restoring the air connections with Port-au-Prince. We invite those countries to decide to suspend those measures while maintaining the sanctions aimed precisely at those who obstruct the restoration of democracy, the head of state in exile added. President Aristide is due to enter Haiti after 15 October, the deadline set by the United States for the military to withdraw from power, according to Defense Secretary William Perry.

Haitian President-in-exile Jean-Bertrand Aristide has decided to convene the Haitian parliament in Port-au-Prince for 28 September in order to submit an amnesty bill to them, according to a communique issued by the head of state in exile in Washington. This is already good news for Senator Turneb Delpe.

Mayor Paul: U.S. Presence Should Promote Democracy

LD2409154094 Madrid TVE Internacional Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] The U.S. military intervention in Haiti is going well. The man who says this, using the words—is going well—is President Clinton. At least, this is what he told Jean-Bertrand Aristide. But there is still no date for the return of the ousted Haitian president. This depends on the time the U.S. soldiers take to guarantee the security situation. It depends on time.

[Haiti correspondent Valentin Diaz] On Monday joint patrols by Haitian policemen and U.S. soldiers will begin to take charge of public security in Port-au-Prince, the capital, and will do so soon in the rest of Haiti. This will thus fulfill the announcement by the U.S. military command that they are going to take charge of order on the streets, although it has all been presented by Colonel Sullivan, the head of the U.S. Military Police, as the fruit of an agreement with Michel Francois, the Port-au-Prince chief of police.

[Begin recording of Port-au-Prince Mayor Evans Paul in French fading into correspondent's superimposed report in Spanish] With people like this there is no choice, Evans Paul told us, referring to the police, only that which we have at the moment, that is, a foreign force to guarantee peace, because the police have been badly trained. You cannot do anything with people like this. The only thing you can do is take away from them the opportunity to do damage. [end recording]

[Diaz] Evans Paul, a coreligionist of President Artistide, is the mayor of Port-au-Prince, but for the past three years he has had to live clandestinely. Now he is preparing his return to the mayoralty and for the return of Aristide.

[Begin Paul recording in French fading into superimposed Spanish translation] This is the first time that foreign international troops have been used in support of disadvantaged people who have been marginalized for a long time. From this point of view, I think that it is

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

necessary to take full advantage of this presence for the benefit of democracy. [end recording]

Cedras' Adviser: Aristide 'Will Never Return'

PY2309214094 Buenos Aires PAGINA/12 in Spanish 23 Sep 94 pp 18, 19

["Exclusive" interview with General Raoul Cedras' chief adviser Lynn Garrison by Walter Goobar, "special correspondent" in Port-au-Prince, "while entering Army headquarters"]

[Text] He arrived in Port-au-Prince on the eve of the coup d'etat that overthrew President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. His friends asked him to stay for a few days and he has stayed for three years. For many people, he is responsible for the mud-slinging campaign orchestrated against Jean-Bertrand Aristide. He is 60 years old, short, gray haired, well-educated, kind, and dresses informally. Very few journalists know him because he does not allow himself to be photographed. If there were any tourists in Haiti, he might easily be taken for one, given his informal dress, but he actually is General Raoul Cedras' right hand, his eminence grise. He says "Carter was the target of a U.S. double game" because "Clinton was determined to attack us anyway." Cedras' adviser said: "Aristide will never return, and if he does, he will be tried by parliament, which will resume in December." He denied that atrocities have been committed in the country. He said: "The bodies lying on the streets are purchased by Aristide supporters at the morgue for $60." In the very few interviews he has granted, he specifically asked not to mention his name and chose a movie-style alias: The Shadow. He briefly met with PAGINA/12 as he entered Army headquarters while his boss was meeting with former President James Carter; Colin Powell, the former leader of the U.S. joint chiefs of staff; and Sam Nunn, the Senate Armed Forces Committee chairman. He later agreed to an extensive and exclusive interview with our newspaper.

The Shadow's real name is Lynn Garrison, and there are many stories about him. Garrison is a retired military officer of Canadian citizenship who first visited Haiti in 1980 as a representative for a movie-making company that was shooting a film on Haitian voodoo. This risky enterprise did not fare well: One night, while digging up a grave at a cemetery seeking to reanimate a dead person to become a zombie, the production team was chased by peasants wielding machetes. Most of the team decided they would never again set foot on Haitian soil.

His second visit to Haiti began on the eve of the September 1991 coup that overthrew Jean-Bertrand Aristide. He says he received a phone call at his house in Los Angeles from "friends who asked him for help." He visited for a few days and has stayed for three years. Since right after the coup, Garrison has been conducting a mud-slinging campaign against Jean-Bertrand Aristide and subsequently against a UN mission headed by Dante Caputo. By confiscating the overthrown president's personal diaries and first-aid kit, Lynn Garrison played a key role in a campaign of reports concocted by the CIA that sought to portray Aristide as a manic depressive who suffers serious mental disorders. For domestic consumption, the Shadow keeps pajamas used by the president, with ribbons sewn to them, which represents irrefutable evidence that the president is a member of some voodoo sect.

Lynn Garrison does not have an office at the Army headquarters and says he does not collect a salary from the Armed Forces. He used to make a living by purchasing Haitian art and reselling them to U.S. museums. He also runs other businesses, including a valuable World War II plane collection that he started when he was a Royal Canadian Air Force fighter pilot. Some of these planes are now worth millions. On 26 October, the State Department canceled the U.S. visas of General Cedras, General Biamby, and Lynn Garrison, who is now unable to return to his house in Los Angeles.

[Goobar] When we met on Sunday, when Gen. Raoul Cedras was negotiating with former President Carter, you were optimistic. What do you think about U.S. troops on Haitian soil?

[Garrison] Yes, I was very optimistic. Had they sent Carter, Powell, and Nunn 2 years ago we would have overcome this situation 2 years ago. Moreover, I believe President Clinton sent them as a screen because he planned to invade Haiti no matter the outcome.

[Goobar] Why do you believe there was a political or military desire to attack Haiti?

[Garrison] While President Carter was negotiating, General Biambi (chief of staff) received reports that parachutes had been issued to the men of the 82d Air Transport Division in readiness for an attack on Haiti. Carter did not know this, but within his delegation there was a group headed by political adviser Larry Rossen, a member of the National Security Council, who was playing a double game. When Gen. Biambi told Carter the invasion was starting he denied it because he did not know that he was being deceived. When we neutralized the factor of surprise we mobilized all our volunteers with their old rifles and made it known to the North Americans that we were going to cause a lot of casualties among the paratroopers. I believe that was the moment when Clinton decided to negotiate with a certain honesty, but while we were negotiating the agreement we felt we had been violated by our best friend. I believe this should be a lesson for other countries of the hemisphere: If the North Americans do not like how others conduct business, they will step on them.

[Goobar] Is democracy a dream in Haiti?

[Garrison] Well, I believe it is very difficult to achieve democracy where there is no history of democracy.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

There has been nothing like democracy in Haiti. Haitians should have brought Aristide to trial in order to remove him from power, but they did not have the necessary infrastructure. With this occupation the North Americans have frustrated all expectations of achieving democracy. Democracy must be created by Haitians, not by North Americans.

[Goobar] How do you see Haiti's future?

[Garrison] I saw a film recently on paratroopers landing. It was the most important drop in World War II, but I believe that would have been surpassed in the case of Haiti. The presence of U.S. troops in the Haitian general headquarters reminded me of the image of the German troops entering Paris. It is very sad to think that Haiti's best friend has occupied us by force. The United States has violated us.

[Goobar] You said it was at the last minute you realized Clinton was talking seriously? Did you not believe the ultimatum?

[Garrison] Clinton's ultimatum was written by Aristide. It mentions atrocities that never happened. They were crimes committed during Aristide's tenure. Haitians have a problem. It resides in that they believe there are one or several gods that watch over justice, but I believe probably there is no divine justice. They are unpredictable because they believe in justice as a god. The members of Mayor [as published] believe God protects them. I believe no one will help if one does not help oneself. That is why I am here.

[Goobar] But, you and Gen. Cedras are responsible for this agreement that includes the invasion. You could have fought, or capitulated, which may have been more honorable than this intermediate outcome...

[Garrison] We are facing an infinitely powerful force. Haitians have between 6,000 and 20,000 men that are poorly equipped and trained. Within this context we decided it was better to wait and be in a position to fight another battle. Now they are here, I hope North Americans and Haitians will cooperate peacefully and learn from each other.

[Goobar] Do you believe it will take many days for the North Americans to intervene regarding the police or military atrocities?

[Garrison] What do you mean by atrocities?

[Goobar] Killing a man because he was demonstrating in favor of Aristide's return.

[Garrison] If you knew the Creole language you would understand that they want to be killed so that the North Americans will intervene. I believe they should be ignored in order to prevent the deaths. If this occurred in Buenos Aires or Los Angeles, it would be a very different matter.

[Goobar] I come from a country that suffered similar atrocities in its recent history. Here I have heard testimonies from people who say that many were arrested during demonstrations and then disappear...

[Garrison] Excuse the expression, but that is pure shit. Give me concrete examples of individuals who have disappeared, and I will give you a bottle of champagne.

[Goobar] How do you explain the fact that dead bodies appear in Port-au-Prince streets every morning?

[Garrison] I am not going to explain that. Let the U.S. Embassy explain that. Aristide's people purchase bodies from the morgue at $60. They steal bodies from cemeteries. All this has been reported in a 13-page document produced by the U.S. Embassy that was recently leaked to the press in Washington. You cannot die twice. Atrocities have been committed by the OAS, with its embargo.

[Goobar] The future. What would you advise Cedras to do?

[Garrison] I would advise him to handle the situation the way he has been for the past three years. He does not seek confrontation and likes to stay on the sidelines. People talk about Cedras' government, but this is Emile Jonassaint's government. The military should have had a more important role in controlling this country, but the general believed the country had to have a civilian government, even though Haiti never had a good civilian government.

[Goobar] What do you think of President Aristide's return?

[Garrison] We will have elections in December to renew the entire Chamber of Deputies and a third of the Senate. Then we will impeach him for many crimes committed during his administration.

[Goobar] At this time Haiti has two governments. How will the situation be resolved?

[Garrison] President Clinton has recognized President Emile Jonassaint's government. The agreement with Carter was signed by Jonassaint. This is proof of Jonassaint's government recognition. Perhaps Washington is sending Aristide a signal that he will never return to Haiti.

[Goobar] Even if Aristide does not return, they have 9,000 Marines here.

[Garrison] Well, the Marines can become good Haitian ambassadors. They can go to the beach. We have beautiful women and fantastic places to go scuba-diving.

De Facto Foreign Minister 'Skeptical' on Aristide Return

PY2309200394 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 Sep 94 p 14

[Report on "exclusive" telephone interview with de facto Foreign Minister Charles David by correspondent Marlise Ilhesca in Caracas on 22 September]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] Caracas—Despite the recent declarations made by exiled Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide in the United States, the Haitian de facto government feels skeptical regarding his announced return to the country. "Do you want me to say that (Emile) Jonassaint will leave after 15 October? Let us see what happens. The fact is, that the agreement we signed with the U.S. negotiators does not refer in any way to the return of Aristide to the presidency," said Charles David, foreign minister of the Jonassaint administration, yesterday in an exclusive interview over the telephone with JORNAL DO BRASIL.

"President Emile Jonassaint signed the agreement with former President Jimmy Carter. The Americans are dealing with us. If there are impressions of Aristide's return to Haiti, they come from abroad. I categorically assert that the agreement that was signed is made up of eight points and in no moment was Jean-Bertrand Aristide mentioned whatsoever," David said, as he guaranteed that the rest of the close aides of President Jonassaint do not intend to leave the country.

Future—"Why would we leave? No one in this administration is being treated as a war criminal. As far as I know, the United Nations has not included me in any resolution," he said. According to David, the best example of the fact that President Jonassaint has plans for the future is his wish to hold legislative elections in December." "Meanwhile, we are finishing the preparations to summon Parliament and vote on a general amnesty law. The presidential [as published] elections should take place a little after," Charles David predicted. He nonetheless guaranteed that the de facto leader of the country, General Raoul Cedras, will leave on 15 October because "the Armed Forces fully respect the agreement."

"To say the least," the minister said, "it is exaggerated" to say that the current Haitian government is happy with the agreement. "Under the pending threat at the moment, we thought that diplomacy was the best weapon; that is why we allowed the presence of an American mission in our country to modernize our Armed Forces. Now we begin to see there is a great difference between what is taking place and what was agreed upon," said the Haitian foreign minister, in reference to the U.S. decision to dissolve some Haitian Army units.

David said that conflicts are beginning to take place between the Haitian high command and the U.S. commanders. "We clearly begin to feel the effects of an atmosphere that did not exist in the initial 48 hours. Perhaps it is nothing more than normal incidents in this kind of situation, but the Haitian military is beginning to feel uncomfortable," he said.

The foreign minister did not like the U.S. order placing U.S. military police on street patrol. "This was not foreseen in the agreement, which establishes a joint action by the foreign mission with the Haitian police."

Regarding the approval of an amnesty law by Parliament before 15 October, Charles David said that it will be the responsibility of the Parliament members. "We will summon them, and they will do as they please. We will not interfere with Parliament," he said.

Circus—When asked why Washington established a dialogue with a government that it did not recognize until recently, David said that "for the first time the Americans accepted talking seriously and with good will." He added: "What we had so far observed was a circus. Finally they understood that there is a government, a civilian government, that conducts the country's affairs, and not a military junta."

David stated that all sectors of society accepted the agreement because "it prevented a bloodbath." He nonetheless added that he "is not pleased to see" so many foreigners on Haitian soil.

De Facto Government To Issue Election Timetable

FL2309133694 Nassau Bahamas Radio Network in English 1130 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Haiti's illegal military government was busy yesterday setting the dates for the next elections and planning the next session of Parliament. The group also wants to grant amnesty to the army and its supporters. Michelle Markham reports now that the latest developments are sure to spark outrage among supporters of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide:

[Begin Markham recording] Under the agreement, which allows 15,000 U.S. troops into Haiti, an amnesty provision is slated to be passed so that the military leaders can step down without being charged with human rights abuses. If Parliament fails to pass such a law, Aristide can return by 15 October.

In a statement, the government of provisional President Emile Jonassaint said it would very soon announce a timetable for the winter vote to elect more than 2,000 senators, deputies, mayors, and local officials. One-third of the Senate and the whole of the 83-member Chamber of Deputies are up for reelection in a vote which now presumably will take place after President Jean-Bertrand Aristide is returned to power.

A communique issued by the de facto regime's Information Ministry says the Haitian people will be asked to get out and vote. The ballots will be the first since the accord signed Sunday by former President Jimmy Carter and Jonassaint's de facto regime that allows for Aristide to return by 15 October and for military leader Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras to step down.

It is uncertain how the military community, which does not recognize the Jonassaint regime and are told to quit before Aristide's return, will respond to the announcement.

Other unsettling news coming out of Haiti: Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras issued a statement saying he would not leave Haiti and did not have to under last weekend's U.S.-Haiti accord. U.S. officials see Cedras's

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

continued presence in Haiti as a complication to the efforts to restore a stable, peaceful democracy. U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry said today the U.S. has not forced the junta to leave Haiti, even though it is highly preferred that it do. [end recording]

Deputies Prepare To Vote on Amnesty Law

FL23092238?4 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies is not idle. The parliamentarians are working toward voting for the law providing full and complete amnesty to the authors of the September 1991 coup d'etat. A commission has been formed, headed by Deputy Deus Jean-Francois. Several human rights organizations have denounced the amnesty provided for in the Port-au-Prince agreement. This document was signed by provisional President Emile Jonassaint and former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, head of the U.S. delegation. Deputy Joseph Lambert would like the amnesty law to be voted on immediately so national reconciliation can be attained. Let us listen to Lambert at the microphone of Daly Valet.

[Begin recording, in Creole] [Lambert] A commission headed by Deputy Deus Jean-Francois is currently working on this issue. Despite the fact that the Constitution says the chambers have the right... [pauses] the parliament has the right to make laws in the public interest, laws that concern the community, but not laws that target a person or a group of persons, I think—still within the scope of seeking a solution to the crisis in a peaceful manner—that voting for the amnesty law is necessary even if the Chamber of Deputies supposedly does not have this right. If there is one deputy who will vote for the amnesty law—I believe that Article 1 says full and complete amnesty is granted to x, y, z, and so on—I, Deputy Lambert, will vote for the amnesty law, and history will remember that I voted for the amnesty law and that I also contributed somehow to resolving the crisis.

[Valet] Deputy, you have spoken of a full and complete amnesty, whereas President Aristide says he is ready to grant political amnesty. Do you in the Chamber of Deputies plan to vote for a general amnesty?

[Lambert] Deputy Beaubrun published a memoir that outlines a way out of the crisis. He clearly describes how amnesty can be granted. As the Constitution stipulates, the president of the Republic may grant amnesty for political crimes and so on. But as far as common law is concerned—violations of people's individual rights, and so on—this person has the right at any time to present a request in due form before the relevant authorities. We in the Chamber of Deputies and especially I—if I have an amnesty law to vote on—will specifically opt for a full and complete amnesty in view of the reconciliation that everybody is advocating, seeking, and hoping for. [end recording]

Lawmakers Cited on Assembly Voting

PA2309214094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1548 GMT 23 Sep 94

[By Herold Jean Francois]

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 23 Sep (EFE)—The U.S. flag is waving at Army Headquarters in Delmas, Haiti, northwest of the capital, where U.S. and Haitian troops are being billeted together in a situation that is beginning to create conflicts. [passage omitted]

Also, there is confusion in the country about the application of the Port-au-Prince agreement signed by the U.S. delegation headed by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Emile Jonassaint, president of the Haitian military regime. The Haitian military believes it is unrealistic that parliament will be convened to vote on the amnesty law, according to political observers. According to several constitutional deputies, there has not been any response to Jonassaint's call to convene parliament, because the lawmakers do not recognize him as president.

Deputy Eli Blancher said constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide has already agreed on amnesty, referring to the 3 October 1993 decree adopted to limit amnesty to the military, according to Article 47 of the Haitian Constitution. Blancher argued that it is impossible to adopt an amnesty law and apply it to a coup d'etat, because it cannot be retroactive.

Bernard Sansericq, however, who is the leader of the Senate, said all deputies and senators are prepared to vote on the amnesty law. He did not, however, indicate whether the vote will be general or if it will also cover those who have committed political crimes. He said there are constitutional lawyers working on the draft amnesty law, and he believes it might be ratified within the coming week.

Regarding the participation of the parliamentarians elected in the challenged January 1993 elections, Sansericq said the Port-au-Prince agreement does not say anything about this.

He declared, "If those chosen in the 18 January 1993 elections cannot participate in the sessions, then our other colleagues will not participate either," which is why he believes there will be no "quorum."

The "de facto" government reported it has begun contacting the Electoral Council to organize December legislative elections and noted that an electoral law is being drafted to call the people to vote.

At a news conference on Thursday, the U.S. Embassy spokesman said the "de facto" government cannot organize these elections and that it is up to the constitutional government of Aristide to take charge of that.

Meanwhile, Chamber of Deputies President Frantz Robert Monde voiced concern over the U.S. military

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

deployment and demanded the "de facto" authorities establish a framework for the deployment to be carried out in keeping with Haitian laws.

Provisional Council Secretary Discusses Elections

FL2309204494 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 23 Sep 94

["Exclusive" interview with (Fritzto Canton), secretary of the provisional Haitian Council of Ministers, by correspondent Jacques Maurice at the National Palace, in Port-au-Prince, on 22 September; first paragraph announcer-read introduction—recorded]

[Text] How clear is the Port-au-Prince agreement? Signal FM interviewed (Fritzto Canton), secretary of the provisional Haitian Council of Ministers, at the National Palace yesterday. (Canton) believes that the Jonassaint government is authorized to hold the next legislative elections. The government is acting quicker and diplomacy is no longer being neglected, particularly following the signing of the Port-au-Prince agreement on 18 September.

[(Canton)] The country would have been reduced to rubble by now if this agreement had not been signed. Why? We do not have enough troops to face the U.S. war machine, troops to oppose the U.S. war machine. A solution to this crisis emerged after the United States was wise enough to send a presidential delegation to negotiate with the Haitian Government—that is, Haiti's civilian government.

[Maurice] There's been talk of flaws in the agreement. Some have said that the agreement is unclear on certain points: civilian government, legislative elections, etc. How do you see this agreement?

[(Canton)] I do not think the agreement is flawed. Article Three clearly states that the contracting parties commit, with the Haitian Parliament, to elections. As far as I know, only two parties have signed the agreement: Jimmy Carter, on behalf of President Clinton, and Emile Jonassaint, on behalf of the Republic of Haiti. The Haitian people should not get involved in a psychological war that would help those who want to destroy this country. Every single government action should be made not in the interests of individuals but in the highest interests of this nation.

[Maurice] Are we working toward elections? What about contacts with Parliament? How is it going?

[(Canton)] There have been serious contacts with the Electoral Council on holding elections. The elections will be held in December. They will be held, you can be sure of that. [Words indistinct] the government is firmly determined to offer a taste of democracy.

[Maurice] The agreement says that the embargo will be lifted immediately. Why has it not yet been lifted?

[(Canton)] Senator Nunn reminded the Senate yesterday of the urgent need to lift the bitter economic sanctions. He is a man of his word, as are Mr. Carter and Mr. Powell. They are all men of their word. I am sure that the Clinton administration will also keep its word, especially in light of the fact that it sent a delegation to negotiate. In principle, the first signs that the embargo is being lifted should be felt today or tomorrow.

Amnesty Commission President Views Chamber Convocation

FL2409004494 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Passages in italics in Creole]

[Excerpts] The office of the lower chamber has taken all measures to convene the deputies for a vote on the amnesty law. The special commission in charge of developing the amnesty bill began its work on 22 September, and the special session could be held on Tuesday, 27 September, as Edner Jean explains in his report:

[Begin recording] [Jean] During its first meeting, the special commission on the amnesty [law] has evaluated the competence of the Chamber of Deputies in this matter. The seven members comprising this commission, some deputies of the Alliance, some socialists, referring to Article 111 of the Constitution, unanimously recognize that the legislative power can pass laws regarding any matter of public interest. According to them, the amnesty would fall into this category. Once this question is resolved, the commission must begin preparation of the bill.

The preparatory work for the vote on the amnesty law could be completed anytime between today and next Monday, indicated the president of the commission, Deputy Deus Jean-Francois:

[Francois] *Our opinion regarding the amnesty law is that Father Aristide had already granted amnesty, meaning that he basically agrees with the amnesty. I do not say what type of amnesty, but he does agree with an amnesty. The military themselves, in the various agreements that they signed, demand an amnesty. Thus, the central parties also agree with an amnesty. I therefore believe that all camps agree on the matter of an amnesty law. I believe that a majority will be found to vote for it.*

[Jean] Now the question is on the holding of this special session. Who of the two presidents—Aristide or Jonassaint—has the competent authority to convene the legislators in the current situation, observers ask. In the Chamber of Deputies, the opinions are varied and differing, reflecting the various political trends within the parliament. Let us listen to the comments of Deputy Joseph Lambert, one of the Alliance leaders:

[Lambert] *The problem we have right now is a practical one: how to not have President Aristide return before 15 October while President Jonassaint is still in power, but*

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

who should call the special session? I believe that the same way a lobby [as heard] is practiced within the Chamber to vote a law, et cetera, a lobby can also be used on the international and national levels so that the special session can be convened. I would strongly hope—within the framework of finding a solution to the crisis—that the special session is conducted by President Aristide.

[Jean] The deputies of the Social Democratic bloc, close to Conacom [National Congress of Democratic Movements] could then take part in a possible debate on the amnesty, with the condition that the contested 18 January elected legislators stay away from the session, states Deputy Serge Jean-Louis.

[Jean-Louis] *We will not answer to any convocation from Mr. Jonassaint. Jonassaint has no constitutional credibility to convene us as deputies. In case other ideas—for example, that the parliament has declared permanence—we responsible deputies, if the 18 January legislators are not present, can participate in a session to discuss great national ideas and make national decisions that are going to commit the nation.*

[Jean] Elie Plancher, an independent deputy who always supported the FNCD [National Front for Change and Democracy], maintains that President Aristide had already granted amnesty to the military. To him, Judge Emile Jonassaint has neither the title nor the authority to convene the parliament. [passage omitted]

It should be noted, however, that the office of the Chamber of Deputies has already taken all measures to open the debates in special session at the deputies chamber sometime between today and next Tuesday [27 September]. [end recording]

Senate President Urges Aristide To Resign

PY2309141394 Buenos Aires PAGINA/12 in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 12

["Exclusive" interview with Senate President Bernard Sansaricq by Walter Goobar in Port-au-Prince; date not given]

[Text] In an exclusive interview with PAGINA/12, Haiti's Senate President Bernard Sansaricq, a supporter of the de facto government, said: "I have always considered that if we want to solve the Haitian crisis, Cedras must leave and Aristide must resign." The legislator added that the 20 September violence occurred because "the people provoked the police. The incident occurred right in front of U.S. soldiers and they realized this. Aristide's people are always throwing rocks to incite the people. They believe this is democracy. What happened was a reaction by a soldier who was hit by a stone. I think his answer was brutal, just as brutal as Aristide's seven months of government."

[Goobar] The de facto government's foreign minister yesterday said he does not think conditions are appropriate for Aristide's return to the country.

[Sansaricq] I think President Aristide cannot return to the country now. I always thought Aristide was not the type of person who could reconciliate the Haitian nation. He lacks the greatness for that. Aristide is not the solution for the country.

[Goobar] But Aristide won the election and you signed the Governors Island Accord contemplating his return.

[Sansaricq] Adolf Hitler also won an election in Germany. The Governors Island Accord does not mean anything. Aristide is not a democrat who seeks democracy in Haiti. He does not have the greatness of soul for that.

[Goobar] What will happen during the period that ends on 15 October? Will de facto President Emile Jonassaint resign?

[Sansaricq] Congress is always here. I think we will approve an amnesty law next week. A president must inspire trust for all his people, not only sections of the population.

[Goobar] But Aristide was elected by 77 percent of all Haitians. Most people expressed their trust in Aristide through their votes. This is what democracy is all about.

[Sansaricq] Only 1.5 million people out of a total of 3 million registered voters actually voted.

[Goobar] Very few people vote in the United States and no one questions the results.

[Sansaricq] Of course. Aristide's case is the result of a reaction to 30 years of extreme rightist governments. This time the pendulum moved to the extreme left. Aristide was elected by the people. But the way he used power during the seven months he was in office hindered the possibility of any good working relations with Congress.

[Goobar] Do you then question the agreement with the United States contemplating the return of the constitutional president?

[Sansaricq] I am not here to question the agreement. I was asked if Aristide was the solution the country needed, and I say no.

[Goobar] If Aristide lacks the greatness of soul to achieve a national reconciliation, who can do it?

[Sansaricq] There are many leaders in Haiti who are capable of doing a better job.

[Goobar] What will happen with police and Army personnel? Will these institutions be dismantled and their members retrained?

[Sansaricq] I think we must discuss all those issues after 15 October. Meanwhile, the police and the Army will continue enforcing law and order in the country.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Goobar] What guarantees can you offer to exiled legislators so that they can come and vote for the amnesty law?

[Sansaricq] The U.S. Army is here.

[Goobar] Are you satisfied with the presence of U.S. troops?

[Sansaricq] Definitively not. I think the situation is very serious for our sovereignty, but what can we do? Haiti is a small country and we must accept the conditions imposed on us.

[Goobar] What is your personal opinion of General Cedras' leadership?

[Sansaricq] Cedras must leave before 15 October. I always thought that Cedras had to leave and Aristide resign if we wanted to solve the Haitian crisis.

Police Spokesman Deplores Shooting Incident in Cap Hatien

PA2509131194 Paris AFP in Spanish 0917 GMT 25 Sep 94

[By Christian Chaise]

[Excerpt] Port-au-Prince, 25 Sep (AFP)—Nine Haitians dead and one North American slightly wounded was the result of a shoot-out between U.S. forces and Haitian police in Cap Haitien, the country's second largest city, on Saturday night.

This first armed incident since the arrival of U.S. forces on Monday occurred shortly after Defense Secretary William Perry praised in Port-au-Prince the "extraordinarily good" progress of Operation Restore Democracy.

Perry, who was conducting a seven-hour inspection in Haiti, briefly visited troops stationed in Cap Haitien in the afternoon. He was accompanied by General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The circumstances of the bloody incident, confirmed by police, remain unclear.

According to a communique read by Captain Bruce Sprecher, a U.S. spokesman, a Marine patrol unit responded to shots coming from the general police headquarters in Cap Haitien at approximately 1925 (2325 GMT). He did not specify, however, if all the dead were policemen.

In addition, he did not explain why the Haitian agents fired at the Marines, one of whom was wounded in the leg and evacuated to the Wasp, an amphibious ship.

The police version of the incident is very different. Questioned by AFP over the telephone, Lieutenant Douzable, spokesman for the local police, maintained that the shooting began when several plainclothes policemen were leaving the general garrison. One of them made a move to put his hand on his waist, a gesture the Marines interpreted as a threat, and in an anticipatory move they immediately opened fire.

The agents responded, Douzable added, announcing that three were dead and one was wounded in the Haitian ranks. He described the incident as "deplorable."

Capt. Sprecher, however, denied that the North Americans fired first. "We have good troops in Cap Haitien. They know perfectly well what they should do and what they should not do," he insisted.

In principle, the Pentagon has authorized its forces in Haiti to use their weapons when they feel their safety is in danger.

According to a Cap Haitien source, the Marine patrol went to the general police garrison because a hostile crowd was approaching it. The source noted that the city, which has no electricity, was completely dark and the streets were deserted. [passage omitted]

U.S. Officer Cited on Incident

FL2609121794 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 2100 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] [monitored in progress] ...of the Cap Haitien police headquarters resulted in 10 deaths and one injured on the Haitian side, a U.S. military spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel (Susan Randall) told AFP today. Some 150 M-1 rifles have been confiscated by the U.S. soldiers, added the officer, explaining that four of the five persons who were arrested by the soldiers had been released. A U.S. Marine [as heard] was slightly injured during this incident. The Haitian and U.S. military are, as of now, accusing each other of being responsible for the incident.

Cedras Visits Cap Haitien

FL2609114594 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1815 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Excerpt] [monitored in progress] ...at the Cap Haitien police headquarters. General Raoul Cedras left Port-au-Prince on the morning of 25 September aboard the same helicopter as U.S. Gen. Henry Hugh Shelton and U.S. Ambassador William Lacy Swing. We have learned from a source close to the General Headquarters that a high-level meeting conducted by Gen. Cedras is being held now at the Haitian Army General Headquarters. Nine Haitians—11 according to Senator [Bernard] Sansaricq—were killed during confrontations last night between a squad of the multinational forces and policemen stationed at the Cap Haitien police headquarters.

At the Haitian parliament the Foreign Affairs Commission of the unofficial senate is still expecting the arrival of Foreign Minister Charles David, who has been invited to give explanations on the Port-au-Prince agreement. This document was signed last 18 September between the provisional government and former U.S. President

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Jimmy Carter. Calm has been restored in Port-au-Prince [as heard] where the military forces of the international coalition are making air and land patrols.

U.S. Embassy in Haiti spokesman Stanley Schrager was in the middle of a squad in Bicentenaire [a Port-au-Prince suburb] this afternoon. Mr. Schrager announced at the international airport in Mais Gate on 24 September the fitting-up of a fuel ship aimed at providing electric power in Haiti. [passage omitted]

Aristide Offers Condolences, Seeks Disarmament

FL2609122994 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 2100 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] The Haitian president—I mean President Jean-Bertrand Aristide—in a statement offered his condolences to the families of the victims in Cap Haitien, the second city of the country where at least nine Haitians—we just learned that there were 10—were killed by a Marine patrol on the night of 24 September. This incident recalls the urgent necessity of an immediate disarmament of the paramilitary militia and of the armed forces, the president-in-exile pointed out. The success of the mission for the restoration of peace, reconciliation, and justice in Haiti is linked to this key problem, he added.

Disarmament is a point of disagreement between President Aristide and his entourage concerning the contents of the 18 September agreement. For the time being, the U.S. Army has taken control of the Haitian Army's heavy weapons and bases only.

Concerning the Jonassaint government, we are still trying to contact the provisional president. So far, no answer. We have been referred to the secretariat of the Council of Ministers.

Accord Reached With U.S. on Joint Police Patrol

PA2309142194 Paris AFP in Spanish 1248 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 23 Sep (AFP)—A high ranking Haitian military source has told AFP that the United States and Haiti agreed today that U.S. and Haitian policemen should patrol jointly in Haiti beginning today.

The source described as "very cordial" and "positive" the meeting held by Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Michel-Francois, Port-au-Prince police chief, and Colonel Mike Sullivan—the officer in charge of a contingent of 1,000 U.S. military policemen—at the Port-au- Prince Police Headquarters on Thursday [22 September].

"The Haitian police and the U.S. military police will cooperate to preserve the public order and prevent incidents such as the ones that have taken place in the past two days," the same source emphasized.

FRAPH Leader Welcomes Joint U.S. Agreement

FL2309165894 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Report by correspondent Luckenson Jean on the news conference by Emmanuel Constant, secretary general of the Revolutionary Front for the Promotion and Progress of Haiti, FRAPH, with unidentified correspondents in Port-au-Prince on 22 September; Jean speaks in Creole; first paragraph is announcer-read introduction—recorded]

[Text] The genie is back in the bottle: The Armed Revolutionary Front of the Haitian People has laid down its arms, and Emmanuel Constant has called on all of the nation's sons to cooperate for a better future. The FRAPH—which once again stands for the Revolutionary Front for the Promotion and Progress of Haiti—wants to work toward unity and says that it is ready to cooperate, even with the president-in-exile. Luckenson Jean attended the FRAPH news conference, the first since the arrival of U.S. forces in Haiti on 19 September:

[Jean] The news conference was held at Emmanuel [Toto] Constant's residence on the afternoon of 22 September. The FRAPH, formerly known as the Armed Revolutionary Front of the Haitian People, has officially reverted to the Revolutionary Front for the Promotion and Progress of Haiti. Toto Constant appeared calm and relaxed as he addressed the press from under a mango tree. He said that he is pleased with the agreement signed by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Emile Jonassaint. The FRAPH spokesman said both FRAPH and the people are the winners in this agreement. He complimented General Cedras and expressed the hope that both parties will respect the agreements.

[Begin Constant recording] Today, I am pleased to announce that the FRAPH and the Haitian people have won through the Port-au-Prince agreement. [applause]

We are still...[pauses] We want to thank President Clinton, Mr. Aristide, President Carter, General Powell, and Mr. Sam Nunn. We repeat: Raoul, we all love you. We hope that both sides respect the agreement and that the peace and cohabitation pacts that the FRAPH has been asking for will be respected this time to give Haiti the chance for a new start. [end recording]

[Jean] Constant asked the general public to help boost the Haitian economy, which is in bad shape. The FRAPH spokesman thanked all foreigners...[pauses] Americans living in the country, particularly Stanley Schraeger, the U.S. Embassy spokesman.

[Begin Constant recording] We ask recognized President Emile Jonassaint to convene parliament so that the amnesty law can be voted on as soon as possible. We invite all legislators abroad to return home to Port-au-Prince so they can vote and participate in true Haitian democracy. We ask Mr. Aristide not to arouse his supporters in an effort to prevent incidents like those we saw at Port-au-Prince harbor and at the airport this week from recurring. [end recording]

[Jean] Toto Constant deplored all acts, incidents, and violence against the civilian population. The FRAPH said a new page must be turned in Haiti's history so that

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

we can have a climate of social appeasement. As members applauded, Constant said: Yes to democracy, no to violence!

Is the FRAPH really ready to cooperate with the 16 December president?

[begin Constant recording] We accept and are ready to respect the Port-au- Prince agreement, as it represents hope. Aristide will not be as intransigent this time. [Words indistinct] we thank him first for having accepted the agreement at the Pentagon yesterday. The only thing is that we hope that he respects it to the letter. [end recording]

[Jean] The the FRAPH spokesman said that the FRAPH salutes General Cedras. He added that contrary to popular belief, the FRAPH is not a military organization and does not hold weapons. If they want to disarm people, they should seek out members of political organizations, he said, adding that the authorities will not cite names while the reconciliation process is underway. Constant concluded by announcing that he will meet General Shelton in the next few days on his mission in Haiti.

Army Spokesman Denies U.S. Dismantling Heavy Weapons Unit

FL2309235494 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] According to Haitian Army spokesman Colonel Pierre Antoine, the Army's heavy weapons unit continues to exist. He indicates that the presence of the U.S. soldiers in the camp is simply a matter of cohabitation. Col. Pierre Antoine explains that this cooperation falls within the framework of the agreement signed in Port-au-Prince on Sunday, 18 September, between the U.S. Government and the authorities in Port-au-Prince.

[Begin Antoine recording] We formally deny the disarming and dismantling of the heavy weapons unit of the Haitian Armed Forces. We make a point of explaining that the presence of U.S. military in this corps falls within the normal framework of cooperation planned by the two general staffs. It relates to a cohabitation deemed useful by both entities, in view of better harmonization of the cooperative effort. Furthermore, other military Infantry corps, of the airport [words indistinct] in the capital and the provinces will receive the same assistance.

The Haitian Armed Forces again insist that the role of the international and national media must be to treat information and reports objectively for better understanding of the situation in general. [end recording]

U.S. Move to Base May Allow Airport To Reopen 'Very Soon'

FL2309201794 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] The U.S. Army continued to take over the Haitian Army's main military bases yesterday, as U.S. Military Police landed in Haiti to prevent a repeat of the police brutality that was reported in Port-au-Prince as the first Operation Uphold Democracy troops arrived. John Deutch, U.S. under secretary of defense, said on U.S. television yesterday that the several thousand U.S. policemen who will patrol Port-au-Prince are expected to have a stabilizing effect. However, the U.S. official pointed out that troops continue to exercise caution following orders to maintain peace without risking the lives of U.S. soldiers.

A U.S. military detachment took over the airport on a large Haitian Army air base on 22 September. Colonel Antoine Atouriste, head of the Haitian special general coordination staff, and Colonel (Bohat), second in command of the U.S. special general coordination staff, arrived at the Haitian military air base together, in the spirit of cohabitation which has prevailed since the arrival of 46 Special Forces members at Camp d'Application—where the Haitian Army's heavy weapons corps is stationed—on 21 September. This military base, equipped with a concrete landing strip and camps to shelter the 300-man Haitian Air Force, is located at the north end of Port-au-Prince, close to Port-au-Prince International Airport, which is also controlled by U.S. forces.

The United States will move some of its troops and equipment onto the air base in an effort to free up the international airport so that it can reopen to traffic very soon.

Police Chief Francois' Whereabouts Still Unknown

PA2309202694 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1728 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 23 Sep (EFE)—Haitian Police Chief Colonel Joseph Michel Francois has become the most-sought man in the country after U.S. troops arrived on the island Monday on a "peace mission."

Francois, viewed as an enigmatic man, of whom there are very few pictures, has practically disappeared since the U.S. military intervention.

The fearful police chief is believed to have played a key role in the coup d'etat that overthrew constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide on 30 September 1991. No one knows his whereabouts, what he is doing, or what he thinks of the U.S. military intervention.

"We all wonder where the colonel is," a Western diplomat who asked not to be identified told EFE.

Meanwhile, dozens of journalists are trying to locate Francois, and observers presume he has met with U.S. officials.

Other reports say that the Haitian police chief could have fled toward the Dominican Republic.

Several Haitian officers, however, have said that Francois is still in the country and that he does not have to leave.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

In addition, a military source told EFE that on Thursday [22 September] Francois received a colonel of the U.S. military police who went to his offices located at the Police Garrison.

According to the source, the U.S. military leader arrived with a group of U.S. soldiers who took up positions and surrounded the Police Garrison, "as apparently they do not trust" Francois.

The source added that Francois told the U.S. officer that the Haitian police will fully cooperate with the U.S. troops who arrived in Haiti on a "peace mission" to restore democracy.

Francois has made no public statements since last June, when his brother Evans Francois, who resides in the Dominican Republic, asked Army Chief General Raoul Cedras, supposedly on behalf of the Police, to resign his post because he was responsible for the Haitian crisis.

On that occasion, Francois described his brother's statement as slanderous.

Right-Wing Group Opposed To U.S. Troops

PA2409014994 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2354 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Report by Herold Jean-Francois]

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 23 Sep (EFE)—The right-wing organization Capois La Mort today called for confrontations with the U.S. troops who have intervened Haiti on a "peace mission" to restore democracy in this Caribbean country.

Franck Pierre, spokesman for the group linked to the Haitian military, called on the masses to "make their voices heard so that the white men (the U.S. troops) will not think that there are only people who welcome them" in Haiti.

Pierre, in a statement made to a radio station, said that it is time for his voice to be heard.

He said that arrangements must be made to confront the Americans, regardless of what happens.

The right-wing leader accused U.S. troops of having brought heavy and nuclear weapons into the country.

Pierre concurrently called for elections, because he believes the return of deposed Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide will generate more violence in Haiti.

The Capois La Mort spokesman's remarks were made today just as U.S. military police started patrolling different sectors of Port-au-Prince.

While a group of soldiers spoke with Haitian citizens, EFE saw members of the military police being taken in military vehicles to outlying areas and to Delmas in the northwestern part of the capital, where they directed traffic, and to Petionville, adjacent to Port-au-Prince.

Meanwhile, constitutionalist Senator Turneb Delpe today charged the coup leaders who toppled Aristide on 30 September 1991, headed by General Raoul Cedras, with responsibility for the U.S. military intervention.

Delpe said the coupists refused to negotiate a return to democracy with the constitutional government, and the Haitian people are now experiencing the consequences.

In statements made on a radio station, the senator characterized the agreement reached on Sunday by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and the Haitian military leaders as "an agreement of shame that betrayed the country to U.S. troops."

Delpe pointed out that the people should fight several battles: "one for the return of Aristide, another for repression to end, another to reconquer the democratic opportunities created on 7 February 1986 for free demonstrations where the people could express their demands, yet another for free elections, one for the implementation of the constitution, and another for the U.S. troops to leave the country quickly."

Regarding the convocation of the National Assembly to approve the amnesty law, Delpe said "the country has only one president and his name is Aristide," and he is the one who most convoke the National Assembly.

Delpe, who is also president of the Haitian Popular Nationalist Democratic Party [Partido Nacionalista Democrata Popular Haitiano] and leader of the National Front for Change and Democracy, said that the Assembly's regular sessions are closed, and now it is the president of the country who must summon it to new sessions.

Delpe said he is opposed to all type of violence. He urged the people to remain calm and stated there is still repression in the country.

Regarding General Cedras, who has noted that Haiti's Constitution prohibits exiling its citizens, Delpe said this is true, but it is also true that the Constitution says that people who commit crimes must be put on trial.

Meanwhile, Harry Numa, a spokesman for the National People's Assembly [Asamblea Popular Nacional], an extreme left organization, spoke against the U.S. intervention, which he sees as an insult to Haiti.

Numa blamed "the opportunist sector of the Lavalas movement" and criticized "its willingness to collaborate with criminals."

Numa said he was surprised to hear Aristide thanked Clinton, "who sent troops to desecrate once again the land of Charlemagne Peralte."

Numa was also surprised to know that Aristide has also thanked Carter for an agreement that does not mention when Aristide would return to Haiti.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Numa said the United States is not interested in dismantling the Haitian Army, whose objective is to repress the Haitian people. He characterized those who are asking the people not to demonstrate in the streets as opportunists.

Meanwhile, the Movement of the Papaye Peasants [Movimiento de los Campesinos de Papaye], which operates in Centre Department, has said the U.S. military intervention is part of a plot against the Haitian people.

In a written statement the organization said that no intervention, in any country, has ever rescued any people.

The movement said the Haitian Army is just a Pentagon platoon trained in the United States.

It added that Haiti's military men are partners of the United States which, the movement says, will do nothing to dismantle Haiti's military.

Pro-Aristide Demonstration Proceeds Without Incident

PA2409175594 Paris AFP in Spanish 1657 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 24 Sep (AFP)—AFP has confirmed that a demonstration in support of exiled Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was held today near the port in Port-au-Prince. Several hundred demonstrators heeded a call from the popular organization Justice Sun for the Liberation of the Haitian People and other pro-Aristide groups, including the "Carrefour Feuilles." The demonstrators held branches and chanted slogans demanding Aristide's return, the resignation of General Raoul Cedras and the Army commander, and the disarmament of the "auxiliary" officials, feared assistants of the police or the military. By morning's end, there had been no reports of incidents.

The demonstration was advancing down an avenue outside the city in the direction of the airport accompanied by a U.S. soldier patrol. A convoy of U.S. Bradley armored vehicles rolled behind the march. AFP saw several hundred demonstrators form a second group a few hundred meters from the scene. According to a witness, a Haitian police vehicle was observed behind the U.S. vehicles.

Demonstrators Welcome Perry, Shalikashvili

PA2409191394 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1743 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Thousands of demonstrators gathered today near the Port-au-Prince international airport to welcome William Perry, U.S. secretary of defense, and General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"God Bless America," "Thank You, America," and "Jail Cedras" were written on many of the signs carried by thousands of pro-Aristide demonstrators, who also waved U.S. flags and gathered in several areas of the city. Saturday's mass demonstrations were the first joyous outbreak since last Wednesday, when the de facto government banned demonstrations on public roads.

Local analysts felt that the demonstrations showed for the second time since the arrival of U.S. troops in Haiti to guarantee a climate of security for the return of deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide that "the people are no longer afraid."

When a truck filled with Haitian policemen arrived at the scene where a group of demonstrators had gathered, people began to jeer and taunt them, yelling "Cedras Must Go." So far no incidents have been reported, although local policemen did come out.

Police Arrest 2 Pro-Aristide Demonstrators

PA2409201994 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1842 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Haitian police have arrested two demonstrators participating in one of the several celebratory demonstrations staged today in this capital upon the arrival of William Perry, U.S. secretary of defense, a local radio station reported.

The arrest may result in a new conflict between Haitian military troops and U.S. peacekeeping forces, which are prepared to intervene in future confrontations between Haitian soldiers and civilians.

According to the report, the incident took place moments after thousands of supporters of deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide took to the streets carrying signs against the de facto government and waving U.S. flags.

Secretary Perry and General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, arrived in Port-au-Prince this morning and are scheduled to visit the multinational forces participating in the occupation.

The popular rallies staged this Saturday have been the first celebrations since the de facto government banned demonstrations last Wednesday following the death of two people, including one eight-year-old boy, in similar actions.

Clubs Used To Disperse Pro-Aristide Demonstrators

PA2409221994 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2100 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By Herold Jean-Francois]

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 24 Sep (EFE)—The Haitian police have used clubs to disperse a demonstration in downtown Port-au-Prince against the military men and in favor of the return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

It was reported that Haitian police arrested an unidentified person. No other arrests were reported.

(In Washington, the CNN Network reported that Haitian police arrested at least four followers of the toppled president and that at least two other persons were arrested.)

The demonstrators were marching along Pavee Street, in downtown Port-au-Prince, about 100 meters from police headquarters, when Haitian policemen intercepted them.

According to reports, the policemen immediately started to hit the demonstrators with clubs.

This protest was not witnessed by U.S. soldiers, who intervened in Haiti on Monday in a "peace mission" to restore democracy, which was suspended on 30 September 1991, when a group of military men led by General Raoul Cedras toppled constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

A protest took place this morning without incident near the dock area and at the Port-au-Prince international airport.

The demonstration proceeded behind a "jeep" of the U.S. military police and was followed by four armored vehicles and two trucks carrying U.S. soldiers.

The protests occurred a day after the U.S. troops in Haiti announced that Haitians may demonstrate openly, even though the "de facto" government had banned demonstrations on Wednesday, following clashes in which three persons died, according to the OAS.

Meanwhile, U.S. troops continued to consolidate their control over Haiti when seven helicopters landed troops in Gonsaives, capital of Artibonite.

The U.S. airplanes landed in an empty lot behind the Toussaint Louverture headquarters, where the Americans were welcomed by Haitian Army Colonel Belhony Groshomme.

The group of U.S. soldiers was also welcomed by approximately 1,000 people who gathered in the vicinity of the headquarters to stage a pro-Aristide demonstration.

The demonstrators were from the Raboteau neighborhood, the poorest in Gonaives, the fourth largest city in Haiti.

Meanwhile, the Interior Ministry today protested against statements made by U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schrager, who said on Thursday that although Haitian Army Chief Gen. Cedras is not obliged to leave his country after he retires, "we hope he will leave. It would be better for the country if he leaves."

It is said that these statements by the U.S. diplomat annoyed the Haitian military and their supporters.

The ministry, in a press communique released today, pointed out that Schrager's statements were intended to humiliate the country, which is going through tragic times.

The communique pointed out that diplomats are obliged to limit their words.

The Haitian "de facto" authorities have issued communiques on several occasions complaining about statements by Schrager, and they have even banned the publication of interviews with U.S. officials in local newspapers.

Three weeks before the intervention by U.S. troops, the news media did not publish any information from U.S. Embassy officials in Port-au-Prince.

Meanwhile, Senator Thomas Eddy Dupiton, a member of the Alliance for Parlamentary Cohesion, has suggested that the "de facto" government ask Schrager to recant the statements he made on Thursday.

This morning, at the Port-au-Prince international airport, a Haitian official complained to a reporter that Schrager "is creating a compromising situation."

U.S. Soldiers Arrest 'Attache' for Threatening Protesters

PA2509005094 Paris AFP in Spanish 2350 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 24 Sep (AFP)—Two U.S. soldiers today disarmed and arrested an "attache" (civilian aide to the Army or police) for showing his opposition by firing shots into the air during a demonstration of followers of former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, two witnesses told AFP.

"Attache" Jean Tatoune, who is well known in Gonaives, was a staunch activist against the dictatorship of Jean-Claude Duvalier before the military regime won him back.

The "attache" lowered a U.S. flag from its mast and threatened the crowd with a revolver before firing into the air.

A U.S. patrol arrived to disarm and transport Tatoune, as well as three soldiers accompanying him, to the garrison in the capital. His current whereabouts are unknown.

This is the first time that U.S. soldiers have disarmed and captured an "attache" in Haiti.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Salinas Outlines Tasks of World Trade Organization

MS2609095394 London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 26 Sep 94 p 18

[Article by President Carlos Salinas: "Trade Winds That Bode Only Good"]

[Text] It was with a sense of relief and achievement that ministers and trade officials from around the world signed the agreements of the Uruguay Round in Marrakech five months ago. Seven years of difficult and often tense negotiations were rewarded by a global commitment to protect and continue nearly 50 years of successful multilateral trade policy.

The stakes were, and remain, huge. Trade has been the most powerful engine of economic growth since the second world war, driving a global increase in output and incomes. The resulting unprecedented prosperity—although it still eludes many in developing countries—has been crucial to maintaining the longest period of peace known to much of the world.

Trade is a central force in boosting economic activity, employment and welfare. It is the cornerstone in the increasingly complex economic inter-actions among the industrial countries and between these countries and others.

The states of eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union have shown courage in entering upon economic transition. To support their commitment to market principles, these countries need secure and expanding outlets for their products. They also need foreign investment which will only materialise if—and to the extent that—export opportunities are available.

In Latin America, Africa and parts of Asia and the Pacific, countries which have bravely worked to open their economies know that further progress, and their potential as thriving markets, depends on further development of an open, rules-based trading system. The poorest states, the sub-Saharan countries, also urgently need opportunities to expand trade. Development in this region is a priority for the world community.

All countries need the open, rules-based trading system that the Gatt has represented in its half-century of existence. Failing to complete the Uruguay Round would not merely have meant failure to move ahead on certain trade issues; it would have shattered confidence in the entire system.

With the successful conclusion of the Uruguay talks, two important tasks lie ahead. First, the participants who invested so much effort in reaching agreement must ensure the accord becomes reality by ratifying it before the end of the year. Otherwise, the Uruguay agreement risks becoming little more than an historical footnote.

The process of ratification must be treated with the same determination as the negotiations. To date, most participants—nearly 100—have not completed the internal processes necessary for ratification. Although the deadline is three months away, it is disturbing that the pace appears slow in a number of capitals. Efforts to solve any outstanding problems they are experiencing should be intensified.

Second, Uruguay round signatories should start looking carefully at the needs of the new system to ensure the World Trade Organisation (WTO) functions effectively from the outset. Past experience has shown that the effectiveness of the international trading system cannot be taken for granted.

In this respect, the WTO must meet three basic conditions: it must be representative, reliable and responsive.

First, membership of the new organisation must be representative of world trade. Creating Gatt in 1948 with only 23 participants was appropriate, given the relatively restricted trade flows of that time. But today, the guiding principle should be universality—long the ideal of Gatt in which 123 countries, in all regions and at all stages of development, now participate.

More than 20 countries, including Russia and the Ukraine, are currently seeking admission into the multilateral trading system. Their producers, traders and trading partners need the clarity, predictability and protection that Gatt provides. We must all co- operate to ensure these countries are admitted promptly and satisfactorily.

Second, a solid and successful World Trade Organisation must be a reliable instrument and forum. In recent years, serious trade tensions have threatened to erode the reliability—and thus the credibility—of Gatt. Major improvements in the clarity of Gatt rules, the broadening of its mandate and reform of its dispute settlement procedures will increase the reliability of the multilateral trading system and help create a firm foundation for the WTO.

National governments may sometimes see advantages in not meeting their international obligations, and be tempted to act accordingly. This temptation can be overcome only if countries are committed to the system and realise that they share an interest in maintaining a rules-based regime.

Third, the trading system must be responsive to the evolving needs and challenges that the international economy will always pose if it is to retain political support.

This is nothing new: it is precisely through its adaptability that Gatt has demonstrated its resilience. I refer to the important reinforcement of its rules (on issues such as control of subsidies) through the Tokyo Round codes; to the special provisions for developing countries introduced in the 1960s and 1970s; and to agreements reached in the area of agriculture and textiles which became make-or-break issues in the integrated world

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

economy of the 1980s and 1990s, but which did not seem remotely possible only a few years earlier.

Looking ahead, it is impossible to predict future challenges to world trade, but some issues are clear. Certainly, the relationship between the environment and trade is a priority. Governments, individually and collectively, must work to increase environmental protection without jeopardising the open and rules-based character of the future World Trade Organisation. Moreover, the increased exposure of our economies to the full force of international trade winds requires the gradual formulation of rules and co-operative arrangements between nations on regulation and competition.

Solutions in these and other politically delicate areas will depend on technical expertise and political engagement. Consensus-building will be a key element in this process.

The relationships between members of the new World Trade Organisation will become increasingly complex, as new countries join and existing members develop into full participants. It is, therefore, imperative that the WTO itself be effective, both technically and in its relations with members. It should dedicate itself not to offering solutions—for this is up to member governments—but to identifying options, to supporting bridge-building efforts, and in this way facilitating consensus. For this we depend on the highly qualified and dedicated Gatt staff, and on the legacy that Peter Sutherland will leave behind.

Only three months remain before the birth of the World Trade Organisation. Ratification of the Uruguay Round is a complex and delicate political process that will demand skill and commitment from all participants. Yet ratification—and I call for ratification now—is a necessary but not sufficient condition for the success of the new organisation. All countries must devote the highest possible level of engagement and support to ensuring the World Trade Organisation functions effectively and successfully from the outset.

Speaking for my country, Mexico, we are ready to contribute all our efforts to the successful launch of the next 50 years of the international trading system.

Government Statement Bans Trade With Haiti

PA2409005994 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 46

[Article by Patricia Munoz]

[Text] The Commerce and Industrial Development Secretariat (SECOFI) has issued a statement that prohibits Mexican importers and exporters from conducting any business transaction with the Republic of Haiti.

It especially prohibits selling or supplying oil, weapons, and other related materials to any person or organization in Haiti.

The decision was made based on resolutions issued by the UN Security Council in the past and in the current year, which placed restrictions on trade relations with that country.

UN Security Council Resolution 873, issued in 1993, talks in particular restricting the sale of oil and weapons of all types to that country.

The UN Security Council later issued Resolution 917 in May 1994 extending the restrictions that are applicable in the existing trade relations between UN members and the republic.

According to Article 25 of the UN Charter, decisions adopted by the Security Council are mandatory for all members of the organization.

As a result, starting today the import and export of goods—with certain exceptions—such as food, machinery and equipment, manufactured products, raw materials, fuel, and so on are prohibited.

The SECOFI statement says that trading of all goods included in the General Tax Law on Imports and Exports, the origin or destination of which is the Republic of Haiti, is prohibited.

The statement also declares that both the Public Administration's Basic Law, as well as the country's own foreign trade laws, account for these situations, and the country's trade authorities have the power to prohibit any trade with a specific nation.

At any rate, the statement that was published in the DIARIO OFICIAL [official newspaper] states that all provisions opposing the resolution are thereby annulled.

Penalties against Importers

Moreover, the SECOFI will officially disclose on 22 September a series of "tariff penalties" against the import of brass padlocks, bicycles, tires, and bicycle tires from the PRC.

This step was taken because sufficient evidence was collected to show that the import of such products hurts the country's production.

Consequently, bicycle importers shall pay a compensatory tax of 144 percent, tire and bicycle tire importers will pay a 279-percent tax, while brass padlock importers will pay an additional 181-percent tax over the value of the import, the SECOFI stated.

Under Secretary on State Migration Initiative

PA2509174094 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 14

[Report by Jesus Aranda on interview with Andres Rozental, Mexican under secretary for foreign relations, by unidentified LA JORNADA correspondent; place and date not given]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] Andres Rozental, under secretary of foreign relations, has said that California Proposition 187 Save Our State (SOS), which seeks to limit education, social, and health services to illegal immigrants, is "ill-fated, absurd, and stupid." Rozental also pointed out that the U.S. Government does not agree with the California State initiative.

Rozental confirmed the Mexican Government's decision to defend Mexicans in the United States and to offer "moral" support to U.S. organizations that oppose the proposal. He also anticipates that if California voters approve the SOS in November, Mexico will make a "more active" decision to "support" the various legal processes in the United States to declare that proposal unconstitutional.

"We will not sit back and do nothing. We will shout our opposition," he said during an interview with LA JORNADA. We will strengthen consular efforts to protect Mexicans, "whether the SOS is approved or not." The anti-Mexican atmosphere has already begun to have negative effects on the Mexican and Mexican-American community.

At his office on the 17th floor of the Foreign Ministry, Rozental—who is directly responsible for Mexican policy toward the United States—also referred to the recent announcement made by U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno on the so-called Doorkeeper Plan. He indicated that in contrast with Operation Blockade, which was implemented in the Juarez-El Paso area in September 1993, this was not a unilateral measure whose title alone was "hostile and unfriendly."

This time, Rozental noted, our government had previous knowledge of Attorney General Reno's announcement. The government was also aware of measures taken to increase the number of border guards and to extend the lighting system along the border. He stated that the Doorkeeper Plan "does not formally violate the human rights or personal safety of our fellow Mexicans."

The official said there were prior negotiations and consultations on this issue, aspects that represent progress considering the fact that until a few years ago, the immigration issue was not approached in a unilateral [as published] fashion.

[LA JORNADA] Could measures such as the Doorkeeper Plan and Operation Blockade be alternatives until the essential economic problem is resolved?

[Rozental] That is what they have said, that they want to implement a policy of prevention rather than detention. It suits them better to put a lot of agents on the border to discourage border crossings rather than to face the cost, time, and frustration of chasing these people after they are across the border. They announced this and said they want to see as many people who want to travel to the United States obtain travel documents as soon as possible so they do not have to travel without them.

The diplomat said noteworthy progress has been made in the bilateral migration policy and, as a result of this, the number of fatalities and violent incidents on the border has fallen considerably over the past five years.

The SOS Affects "Our Interests and Concerns Us"

Andres Rozental said the SOS proposal is "nefarious, absurd, and stupid," not only because it goes against rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court, which establishes that U.S. public schools must accept all children of school age, but also because if it is approved, "it will create a human subclass, a group of people who will have no access to schools or hospital services in the United States," which is contrary to all logic, he said.

The creation of the SOS means "the creation of an animal" that separates Californian society, and instead of resolving immigration problems, "it will only make them more complicated," Rozental said.

Because this initiative directly affects Mexicans living in the United States, "the Mexican Government has taken a stand against it," Rozental declared.

The fact is that the initiative has not only produced in that state a cultural medium for using immigrants as a political tool, but it has also been aimed at Mexico and Mexicans, and this is even more worrisome. The situation is regrettable not only because it affects Mexicans and Mexican-Americans but also because it is untrue that Mexican immigrants are to be blamed for every problem in California.

Rozental added: "In the first place, California has immigrants from all over the world. The U.S. Government itself estimates that half of the undocumented people arrived in the United States legally and then stayed past the permitted time. These people are not Mexicans."

In the particular case of California, this matter has become an issue in the gubernatorial, local, and municipal elections.

First, an upset Rozental said, we are taking all the blame for something that is not entirely our fault; and second, Mexicans and Mexico's border with California are being used as points of reference "whenever the issue of immigration or of undocumented persons comes up. People always point to the Tijuana border. There is never any mention of the Chinese, Salvadorans, or thousands of others who arrive from other places, and this has contributed to the emergence of a racist, anti-Mexican, xenophobic campaign.

Responding to U.S. sectors that have criticized Mexico's forthright position, the foreign deputy secretary said:

"We are waiting for 8 November, the date on which the California electorate will vote on the initiative. The Mexican Government has said that it has taken sides and is opposed to the SOS initiative. It is opposed to it not because it wants to interfere in the internal affairs of the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

State of California, but because the measure will negatively affect thousands upon thousands of fellow citizens in the United States, and it is the Mexican Government's duty to defend their interests. It has always been and will always be this way."

Even though those who proposed the SOS initiative are not pleased with the Mexican Government's position and say we are interfering in their internal affairs, "we have said it is our first obligation, as it is of any government, including their own, to watch over citizens abroad. That is our duty."

I do not believe, said Rozental, that the federal government is promoting this initiative. There are may officials in Washington who think the initiative is bad, negative, and not even functional. The U.S. education secretary sent a letter to the California State Congress in which he clearly says that approval of the SOS initiative will trigger an immediate loss of official subsidies to the education sector in California—approximately $15 billion—because it would violate a federal law.

It is clear, the foreign deputy secretary concluded, that the U.S. Government does not agree with the SOS initiative, and although it cannot interfere, it has made its opinion known with these types of statements.

Under Secretary on Special Visa for Border Workers

PA2609034094 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 23 Sep 94 pp 1, 8

[Report by Jesus Aranda: "Rozenthal: Special Visa for Border Workers Under Consideration"]

[Text] The Governments of Mexico and the United States are analyzing the establishment of a special visa for "legitimate" residents of border towns, so they can work as "daytime workers" on the other side of the border and return to their homes in the evening.

This proposal, presented months ago by Mexico's Foreign Relations Secretariat [SRE], will be discussed together with other migration measures at the next Mexico-U.S. Binational Meeting, which will be held on 4 October in Washington, Foreign Relations Under Secretary Andres Rozenthal has announced.

During an interview in his office at the SRE building, the diplomat stressed the importance of the upcoming binational meeting with the United States concerning migration. At this meeting, he said, the first study on migration jointly conducted by both governments will be approved. He remarked that this study will allow Mexico and the United States to advance a great deal in quantifying and qualifying the migration phenomenon by mutual agreement.

Rozenthal asserted that the document will lay the foundations so "both we and they will stop using figures, statistics, exaggerations, or underestimations, and we can all sit down and work together to diagnose the phenomenon and be in a better position to deal with it."

This is considerable progress, he noted. We have never done this in the past, and we will approve this study and its provisions before the administration of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari concludes.

Andres Rozenthal, who served as SRE Latin American director before being named foreign relations under secretary, recalled that until recently "neither country was ready to hold bilateral talks much less conduct a joint study on the problem."

Although Mexico insists the migration problem is fundamentally economic, Rozenthal explained, we continue to work with the United States on different viable ways to increase legal options for Mexicans wishing to go to that country.

He went on to say that these options range from increasing the number of border passes that are granted to considering the possibility of granting more visas to Mexicans.

In addition, the proposal to create a plan for daytime workers who live on the border and work on the other side would apply to citizens of both countries, because there are also U.S. citizens who work here illegally.

He noted that the said proposal has already been officially presented, although no favorable response has been received. We "continue to insist on this proposal." Rozenthal explained that in the 4 October binational meeting, the implementation of a "pilot program" that could tentatively take place in the area of Juarez-El Paso will be proposed so that both countries can make an assessment.

This program does not formally deal with migrants, the diplomat said, but with people who work on the other side of the border. So far, the United States has not presented any plans granting permits for this kind of work, because the permits they grant are for nonremunerated activities, such as shopping. He emphasized that it is not true that most Mexicans go to school or get medical treatment in the United States. We are working on this and hope to obtain results relatively soon, Rozenthal stated.

What other topics will be discussed at the meeting?

The aforesaid are the main topics, in addition to the delivery of repatriated or deported individuals and the transfer of prisoners. We will also go over the question of border violence, as well as proposals made at the state level, which must be considered at the federal level, such as charging those crossing the border. We believe such measures will not stop the flow but will adversely affect the migration problem, the foreign relations under secretary concluded.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Bishops Note EZLN, Government Talks Not Suspended

PA2509045594 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 14

[Report by Candelaria Rodriguez]

[Text] Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas State, 21 Sep—Bishop Samuel Ruiz Garcia stated today that one of the persons in the work team of Jorge Madrazo Cuellar, commissioner for peace and reconciliation in Chiapas, may join the cabinet of future president Ernesto Zedillo.

During a news conference, Bishop Ruiz Garcia, who is also a member of the Mexican Bishops Conference (CEM), added that the team of President-elect Ernesto Zediilo "has confidence" in revolving all the problems the Zapatist National Liberation Army (EZLN) presented at the San Cristobal table of negotiations.

The prelate was accompanied by four other CEM members, who, at the conclusion of their three-day visit here, stated the dialogue between the EZLN and the government was not suspended because there have been responses made through the actions taken by both sides.

The EZLN allowed the 21 August elections to take place, whereas the Mexican Army provided the facilities to hold the National Democratic Convention on 7, 8, and 9 August.

This means the dialogue will not be the same as in San Cristobal. "Dialogue does no just take place face to face since instead there have been written communications on serious proposals; it is not, however, broken," the prelates noted.

"There is a lack of specific topics, because we cannot hide the fact that the dialogue has ran into a stumbling block, and with each passing day, the presence of one administration wanes, and we draw closer to a different administration that still has gaps wilthin government structures. That indicates that the topics discussed must be left with a guarantee and that we must discuss current points," they explained.

Bishop Ruiz Garcia, together with the CEM president, Coatzacoalcos Bishop Carlos Talavera, Tapachula Bishop Felipe Arizmendi, and Tuxtla Gutierrez Bishop Felipe Aguierre, in their fourth visit to Chiapas since the conflict started, stated the rule of law has not disappeared in Chiapas "nor are we living under the law of the jungle."

They called on community leaders, however, to struggle for their legitimate rights but not based on injustice but through legal means, since "the arbitrary actions that are taking place and all the harm caused to the rights of third persons make groups even more violent."

"That kind of conflict occurs because of the need for justice for all, a revision of some laws, and the wise implementation of the laws. We are living in a time in which we need greater tolerance and care for different groups, because all of them as a whole may arrive at the truth," the prelates noted.

"Unfortunately, whenever there is problem of injustice, the solution sought consists of investing in the area, which is the wrong path because, even though millions may be spent, projects do not amount to justice. The path, at any rate, must include a correction of the things that did not work and were improper because of a misguided way of acting," they concluded.

Government Secretary Carpizo Meets With CND Delegates

PA2509045694 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 15

[Report by Jose Antonio Roman]

[Text] Government Secretary Jorge Carpizo has told Rosario Ibarra de Piedra and Jose Alvarez Icaza, president and one of two vice presidents, respectively, of the National Democratic Convention [CND], that "the first shot will not be fired by the Mexican Army" and that the federal government "is very interested" in resuming the talks with the Zapatist National Liberation Army [EZLN].

According to Alvarez Icaza, who described the interview as "very positive," Carpizo offered to do everything possible so the Chiapas situation can be settled peacefully. "We agree that the possibility of finding a peaceful solution for the conflict will remain open as long as there is dialogue. The possibility of attaining peace depends on each side yielding some ground," Carpizo told the two CND officials.

Alvarez Icaza, who is also director of the National Social Communications Center [Cencos], said that, during the half hour that the interview lasted, Carpizo always referred to EZLN very positively, "cordially and very respectfully."

Interviewed at the Cencos office during the afternoon, Alvarez Icaza said that Carpizo even offered to keep the Secretariat's doors open for future meetings and said that he would try to find a way out for any trouble reported.

For the time being, Carpizo told the CND representatives, Deputy Secretary Jose Narro Robles is in the Chiapas conflict zone with precise instructions "to settle any problems that might arise."

In the exchange of views, both Ibarra and Alvarez said that resuming the talks with EZLN was out of their control. They said they would relay the message to the EZLN representatives, however.

During the meeting, which lasted a little more than one hour, the CND delegates handed in to Carpizo several documents and paid advertisements released by the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

CND, including one with the CND's position regarding the Chiapas elections and the CND's view of the situation in the state.

The document, which was not read at the time, demands am emd to the climate of harassment and repression against members of the State Democratic Assembly of the Chiapas People, a withdrawal of the federal Army from the state, and a recognition of Amado Avendano as governor of Chiapas, "the only way to make a peaceful transition to democracy."

The CND is decidedly in favor of peace in Mexico because this is its function. "We agree with the EZLN position, but our purpose is to prevent war. This is the CND's reason for being. The CND wishes and works for peace," the delegates told the secretary. The meeting only included the three of them.

In addition, the CND delegates voiced their concern and fear that a confrontation between the Mexican Army and EZLN could erupt any time because of the climate in the zone of conflict. They pointed out that the government's view of the reality is not necessarily that of a sector of the society.

It was at this point that Carpizo said the Mexican Army would not fire the first shot and that the government is interested in resuming the peace talks.

PRD Issues Appeal for Democratic Reform

PA2509150294 Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 38

[Statement issued by the Party of the Democratic Revolution entitled "For the State's Democratic Reform," in Mexico City on 20 September]

[Text] Democracy is still pending after 21 August, and a change in the political system is becoming increasingly urgent. Mexico needs a profound state reform that will lay the groundwork for a new, freer, and more just democratic republic.

The reforms demanded by the country must be specifically based on timely changes to legislation that guarantee the absolute freedom of electoral organizations, which must be run by civilian society. The reforms must also include specific and verifiable agreements to guarantee the separation of the ruling party from the government.

Freedom for every person to vote and respect for that vote are the starting points for an agenda that must include substantial changes in political relations between the government and citizens. In addition, this agenda must include proposals to reduce abusive presidential actions [presidencialismo abusivo] and to promote a true balance among the state branches. It must also stimulate the Federation's respect for the sovereignty of the states and the municipalities and different treatment of the citizens by the government.

Fairness in electoral processes; democratic regulation of state programs and actions; abolition of the system of cooperatives [cooperativismo]; profound changes in the social communications system to guarantee genuine pluralism; control of public spending by parliamentary minorities; establishment of referendum, plebiscite, and citizen consultation processes; an independent judiciary; and effective mechanisms to safeguard human rights are topics that must be included in the democratic reform of public powers and political relations.

Commitments to preserve sovereignty and national integrity must also be made. Our economic and commercial ties with foreign nations, the recovery of development, the distribution of wealth, improvement of the population's living conditions, and an effective reduction of extreme poverty, among other national issues, must be reviewed.

It is obvious that the political resolve of all members of society is needed to achieve the great reform Mexico requires. Thus, abiding by a mandate from the PRD National Council to build a national democratic dialogue, the Executive Committee takes this initiative—without affecting any respectful and fair relations that might be established by those who decide to join this effort.

We feel it is necessary for political parties and civilian society to assume responsibility for drafting an agenda for the dialogue with the powers of the state.

Today we will begin making pertinent contacts with political parties, business groups, churches, and distinguished individuals so we can all draft the agenda for promoting change to begin the dialogue, with the promotion and mediation of our society.

Parties, citizens' organizations, and individuals can give this effort the strength and confidence it needs. We are aware that there is a minimum basis for agreement with regard to the 20 Commitments for Democracy document drafted by men and women of various sectors and signed by the presidential candidates of the largest political forces. This was a document explained in their campaign proposals.

We want to expand the confluence, giving it greater energy through an initiative that must include and commit everyone.

The essential goal is for the country's future to be democratic and for peace to be consolidated through a government based on consensus, justice, and the constant expansion of personal freedoms.

Democracy Now, Fatherland for All!

National Executive Committee

Mexico City, 20 September 1994

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

PRI 'Regretfully' Accepts PAN Victory in Nuevo Leon

PA2509024894 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 23 Sep 94 p 5

[Report by Oscar Vasquez C.]

[Text] Ignacio Pichardo Pagaza, national president of the Institutional Revolutionary Party [PRI], yesterday said that the PRI "regretfully" accepts a State Electoral Tribunal [TEE] resolution declaring the National Action Party [PAN] candidate the winner in the Monterrey elections for municipal president, because the resolution is in accordance with the law. Government Secretary Jorge Carpizo said simply: "I respect the electoral tribunals. I will say no more." Alfredo del Mazo, coordinator of PRI's National Citizens' Movement, said the PRI members will have to accept the resolutions of the Nuevo Leon electoral authorities declaring PAN the winner in Monterrey. We would be wrong if we do not accept this resolution, he said.

Pestered by reporters during former president Adolfo Lopez Mateos's funeral, Pichardo Pagaza agreed to discuss the Monterrey elections. He pointed out that the PRI would "accept the decisions of the proper electoral authorities. Unfortunately, the PRI failed to challenge the results of the voting sites where PAN obtained the majority of the vote and where there were computation errors."

He said that the PAN objected to and challenged the results at several Monterrey voting sites, used all legal resources available, and finally obtained a favorable decision from the tribunal, a decision the PRI has now accepted.

Pichardo Pagaza said the PRI believes in the principle of legality. He remarked that the party does not lend itself to "negotiations" and does not renounce the principle of legality despite political adversities.

He said further that Monterrey is the largest Nuevo Leon municipality and one of the country's most important cities. "We should not say yes, that we agree with the results at a particular place, as long as the law is on our side and then take improper actions to influence the electoral tribunals' verdicts whenever the results are unfavorable to us."

He said that, once the legal procedures have been followed and the electoral results have been revised by the authorities as stipulated by law, a new revision cannot take place. Otherwise, the law would be misinterpreted and a precedent would be established, which could be repeated elsewhere with unpredictable consequences.

Del Mazo underlined that the PRI respects the law and will not act in any other way. Del Mazo, former governor of the state of Mexico, said that the PRI has a long life ahead of it and that, for this reason, it is revitalizing and adapting itself to the new circumstances.

For this reason, the reforms proposed by Ernesto Zedillo, virtually the new president of the republic, intend to thoroughly revise the party structure. Finally, Del Mazo said the party will disengage itself from the government.

Bankers Explain New Regulatory Measures

PA2509160894 Mexico City EL FINANCIERO in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 4

[Report by Gerardo Flores and Miryam Hazan]

[Text] Development banks have asked nonbank intermediaries not to contribute to the atmosphere of uncertainty and stressed that the guidelines that are emerging at a time when new changes are being made will prevent financial crises in secondary institutions.

General Directors Enrique Vilatela Rivas of the National Foreign Trade Bank of Mexico (BANCOMEXT) and Arturo Ortiz Hidalgo of the National Finance Bank (NAFIN) said there will be no turning back in the implementation of the guidelines that will be unveiled next Wednesday.

The bankers, who were participating in an international symposium organized by the National Institute of Finance Executives (IMEF), said the goal of the new rules is to make secondary institutions less dependent on intermediary institutions.

They reaffirmed that one of the main aspects of the regulation is that development banks will share a maximum of 50 percent of the liabilities, which will require up to 10 months leverage on accountable capital and the reduction of outstanding portfolios to 5 percent of the total portfolio before 1995.

They added that no client will be allowed to hold more than 5 percent of the nonbank financial institution's total portfolio, and no group of corporations with common partners shall be allowed to accumulate more than 20 percent of the total.

During the event, Ortiz Hidalgo said NAFIN's contingency reserve funds will total 2.905 billion new pesos by the end of the fiscal year. That amount covers the negative effect of certain failed nonbank financial institutions such as Havre and Arrendadora Pragma.

He said that at the close of 1989, the contingency fund was 644 million new pesos; by the end of last year, it was 2.573 billion. Hidalgo said the bank's accountable capital will total 5.861 billion new pesos by the end of the year. This year's contribution to that figure, he said, came mostly from income reinvestment, which will total a little more than 700 million new pesos.

Ortiz Hidalgo also addressed the Nonbank Intermediary Financial Institution Consolidation and Strengthening Program, which was developed by his organization. He reported that NAFIN has completed the evaluation of 187 out of 221 credit unions.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Based on these evaluations, NAFIN has drawn up 93 individual administrative correction plans and 33 financial restructuring plans. In addition, the NAFIN director detailed the procedures set forth for control and follow-up at intermediary nonbank financial institutions, which can be summarized as follows:

1. Nonbank financial institution registration requirements. These requirements will consider legal, administrative, and financial aspects.

2. Programmed intermediary institution evaluations. Monthly evaluations will examine financial data. Quarterly evaluations will include qualification exercises for each institution directed at determining the risk factor for each one. The process will then assess the total funds channeled through the institution and adjust the reserves accordingly, thus preventing possible bankruptcy.

Vilatela affirmed that BANCOMEXT clients will all have complied with the new regulations for intermediary nonbank financial institutions by the end of 1995.

In an interview, he explained that there is no specific period for these institutions to adjust to the new guidelines imposed by the development banks. He also pointed out that there is no contingency fund available for responding to irregular situations, such as those involving the Havre and Union-Cremi financial groups this year. "What we have are reserve funds equivalent to 1.73 times the total current outstanding portfolio."

In his conference, Vilatela Rivas said BANCOMEXT was preparing for the change and that the new regulation package is irreversible.

The main objective is to give independence to the nonbank intermediaries, limit liabilities to 50 percent, promote reserve funds for at least 25 percent, and bring leverage to 10 times the accountable capital.

New Banking Relationship

Meanwhile, the private sector is demanding a new relationship with primary and secondary financial institutions and a change of mentality that will allow the establishment of the foundations for micro, small, and medium businesses to increase their contribution to the gross domestic product (GDP). These companies want to generate sources of employment and increase the people's buying power.

Bernardo Ardavin Migoni, general director of the Foundation for Business Development (Fundes), said that in view of the banking situation and the high cost of money, it is urgent that the phenomenon of guarantees be discontinued as a first step toward establishing a new relationship, because out of every 100 loan applications, 20 are approved and 80 are rejected.

A participant in the IMEF, Ardavin Migoni, also a former president of the Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic (COPARMEX), mentioned that a new relationship between businessmen and bankers will have an impact at the macroeconomic level in practice, not just in theory.

We want to make a more important contribution to the GDP, the way it is in Italy. We want to create sources of employment and hasten microeconomic improvements.

In a speech on "Special Mechanisms of Access to Loans for Medium Businesses," Ardavin Migoni asserted that businessmen are not asking bankers for assistance or philanthropy. They want them to eliminate their obsolete guarantees and reduce the cost of money.

Ardavin Migoni said the Fundes program uses Swiss capital to promote business projects in Mexico; makes loans to companies with two years of experience, staffs of 60 people, and assets of $300,000; and gives them up to five years to amortize their capital.

Launch of Satellite Set for Early Oct

PA2509235194 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0430 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "24 Hours" newscast]

[Text] Communications and Transportation Secretary Emilio Gamboa Patron has announced that the Mexican satellite Solidarity II will be launched early in October. The satellite will be technically unique in its genre; not even the United States has one, and it will be an important step toward Mexico's modernization, Gamboa Patron explained.

[Begin Gamboa Patron recording] Between 4 and 7 October, Solidarity II will be launched by Ariane Space in French Guiana. We will then have three satellites in orbit, and Mexico will thus become a leader with regard to satellites. Nowhere in the world is there another satellite like Solidarity II, which has the three bands that are required to provide full service. Solidarity I has the bands K-U, L, and C, and Solidarity II will also have them.

The United States of America will not launch a satellite with these characteristics until December. [end recording]

Secretary Gamboa Patron said that there has been considerable growth in the field of telecommunications. He spoke of the radio and television concessions granted and denied that Televisa is always the most highly favored company.

[Begin Gamboa Patron recording] When the president's six-year term began, Televisa had 64 percent of all television concessions in our country. It will end the term with 42 percent. What does this mean? That the secretariat has granted many more concessions to private groups, isolated groups, and groups of young people who want to work on television and radio. There is enormous room for competition, which is now beginning. We have just granted two important concessions

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

that will compete with Television Azteca and Televisa. The winners will be the viewers. [end recording]

In reference to Mexican private investments in telecommunications abroad, Gamboa Patron said that in addition to investing in the national market, Mexicans should also invest abroad.

[Begin Gamboa Patron recording] We have begun to shape a Mexican mentality of going abroad and seeking markets elsewhere. Televisa is an example; it has companies abroad. Many businessmen are playing important roles. [end recording]

Secretary Gamboa Patron spoke at a meeting with the Mexican chapter of the World Association of Female Journalists and Writers. In response to questions he outlined the work done in the field of telecommunications during this term.

Correction to Madrazo, Bishops Demand EZLN Answer

PA2209173194

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Peace Commissioner, Bishops Demand EZLN Answer," published in the 21 September Latin America DAILY REPORT, pages 14-15:

Page 15, column one, paragraph three, only sentence, make read: ...also the ombudsman, took office in June when he replaced Manuel Camacho Solis, who had resigned as the official who held the first... (rewording)

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Guatemala

De Leon Carpio Confirms Mission Going To Haiti

PA2309230294 Guatemala City Teleonce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 23 Sep 94

[From the "Telepress" newscast]

[Text] Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio today confirmed that Guatemalan personnel will be sent to Haiti as part of a peace-keeping multinational force.

During a news conference that also included Defense Minister Mario Enriquez and Foreign Minister Maritza Ruiz de Vielman, De Leon Carpio reported details of the Guatemalan mission going to Haiti.

[Begin De Leon Carpio recording] Our participation takes place during the second phase of the operation and should be viewed not as combat action or anything like that, but as one to provide humanitarian aid to our Haitian brothers, to exert control, order, and protection, and to provide civilian and health assistance thus contributing to political stability, a return to a democratic system, and to the consolidation of Haiti, which will strengthen the hemisphere's democratic systems.

As Army commander in chief and based on his constitutional right to direct the country's foreign policy and international relations, the president has decided, in line with UN resolutions, to place whatever personnel we can spare at the disposal of the multinational peace effort. These include the following: two senior officers, 10 junior officers, two military police platoons, one civilian affairs detachment, and one health battalion composed of two officers and 120 troops—a total of 132 [as heard].

The United Nations has also asked for the participation of two Guatemalan Army officers to form part of the observation mission that will follow up on the operations of the multinational forces in Haiti and on the return and reestablishment of institutional and democratic order in that country.

Only six countries were asked to provide these officers, in addition to Guatemala: France, Belgium, New Zealand, Brazil, and Ireland.

The president has issued orders through the defense minister. Because of the scope of the matter and so that actions may be organized, programmed, and implemented, the decision has been reviewed and supported by the Army High Command, which is composed of the general commander, the defense minister, and the Army chief of staff.

Guatemala's participation, through the Army, in this second phase of the operation does not represent any outlay for the government because all expenses will be paid by the United Nations.

Sixth [as heard], Guatemala expresses its satisfaction over its role in the international arena. This is the first time in history that the Guatemalan Army has been asked to furnish this type of valuable professional and humanitarian services. During the second phase of this historic action, it will contribute to peace, justice, respect for human rights, and democracy in the sisterly nation of Haiti. [end recording]

Three Explosions Reported in Capital; 1 Killed

PA2309141394 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0702 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Guatemala City, 23 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Rescue units last night reported the explosion of three bombs in this capital, which caused one death and heavy structural damage.

Eleven-year-old Roberto Sinai was killed when a powerful bomb exploded at the Pollos Campero Fast Food Restaurant in the exclusive Zone 15, the firefighters reported today.

Another explosive device caused heavy structural damage to the Metro Prince Shopping Center in the same area.

Also, unidentified individuals exploded a homemade bomb that was planted in a car at the low-income Zone 2 in this capital.

The firefighters also reported the planting of a strong dynamite charge at an electric plant on km 30 on the highway to El Salvador, south of the capital.

The National Police told NOTIMEX that it is investigating these incidents that occurred in southern areas of Guatemalan territory.

These acts of violence took place while a UN mission is in the country to discuss the installation of an international verification commission, in keeping with peace agreements signed between the government and the guerrillas.

The attacks occurred four days before the guerrilla command and the government meet in Mexico to agree on a date to resume peace talks to end 34 years of armed struggle.

Police Defuse Explosive Device

PA2409211394 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1947 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Guatemalan National Police experts defused an explosive devise today in a building in the exclusive Zone Nine, in the southern part of Guatemala City.

The police report reveals that the bomb, which had a clock mechanism, fuse, and dynamite, was defused a few minutes before it exploded.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

A 12-year-old child died yesterday evening after unidentified people gave him a package that supposedly contained food, but which actually contained one of the three bombs that exploded in different parts of Guatemala City.

The incidents have taken place while a UN delegation is preparing the arrival of a mission to verify compliance with human rights agreements and while the government and the guerrillas are scheduled to meet in Mexico City next week.

President Condemns Latest Attacks in Capital

PA2409194994 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1812 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Excerpt] Guatemala City, 24 Sep (DPA)—Various groups have expressed their repudiation of the terrorist attacks perpetrated two days ago in the Guatemalan capital, especially the attack which resulted in the death a poor 12-year-old boy. The boy will be laid to rest today in a local cemetery.

The attack that resulted in the death of Marcos Fidel Quisquinay occurred in the parking lot of a popular restaurant located in a residential sector of the capital. Unidentified individuals gave the boy a bag containing a high-powered bomb.

The boy, who spent his time guarding vehicles at the aforementioned place, took the bag thinking it was food, because customers at the restaurant usually gave him food. Instead of food, the bag held a powerful bomb that dismembered the child upon exploding.

Guatemalan President Ramiro De Leon Carpio termed those responsible for the terrorist attack "savage, cowardly, irrational individuals."

He added that this attack may have been launched by destabilizing groups "under the control of either the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity] or another rebel groups that is no longer controlled by the rebel command."

The president said "it is irritating that on one hand they talk of peace, while on the other they kill a boy who, regardless of the fact that he was poor, still had the hope of life."

Human Rights Ombudsman Jorge Mario Garcia Laguardia also condemned the attack against Marcos Fidel and said those responsible have shown an "unbalanced conscience."

He added that these actions "constitute a serious, enormous setback in terms of respect for human rights in the country."

Congress President Arabella Castro de Comparini also repudiated the terrorist acts, adding that "the main victims are innocent people."

General Efrain Rios Montt, former head of state and deputy to Congress, said the attacks were launched by the URNG "to gain importance in light of the visit to the country by a preliminary delegation of the UN Mission for Guatemala (MINUGUA), which will oversee the human rights situation in the country." [passage omitted]

URNG Leader: War To Continue Until Cease-Fire Signed

PA2409204494 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2120 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Sep (ACAN-EFE)—Miguel Angel Sandoval, a Guatemalan guerrilla leader, stated here today that "the war will continue" until a cease-fire pact is signed with President Ramiro De Leon Carpio's administration.

"The negotiation is aimed at finding political formulas to end the armed conflict in Guatemala, therefore it is normal for fighting to continue," Sandoval told the media.

Sandoval, a member of the Political-Diplomatic Commission of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity (URNG), said the cease-fire is one of the matters pending on the agenda of negotiations with the Guatemalan Government. He went on to emphasize that his organization "is stronger and more united than ever."

He added that "the government's nonfulfillment" of an overall agreement on human rights will be the main issue of discussion in the meeting scheduled for 27 September in Mexico.

Notwithstanding, he noted that "the political conditions and the guarantee of conditions for resuming the negotiation process do not exist" right now.

Guatemala is the only Central American country where an armed conflict persists. According to humanitarian groups, this conflict dates back to 1960 and has claimed 150,000 lives.

URNG Communique Denounces Government 'Repression'

PA2409014494 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 50

[Communique issued by the General Command of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, on 21 September; place not given—passages in boldface as published]

[Text] In the last two weeks, the government of the Republic, a sector of the Army, and all types of government spokesmen have unleashed a campaign of repression and a disinformation offensive. This campaign has increased in momentum, bringing the country's political and social situation to intolerable levels.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

The General Command of the URNG [Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity]:

REPORTS

1. That in a new form of institutional repression, which has already claimed several victims, combined police and Army forces are carrying out criminal and offensive acts against different groups of peasants, who have staged protests to defend their rights and aspirations.

2. That equally criminal is the campaign of allegations launched primarily by the government minister and endorsed even by the president of the Republic, that accuses peoples' organizations of being members of or working for the URNG. In an irresponsible manner, the president yesterday echoed the alleged URNG "Destabilization Plan."

Making these kinds of accusations in Guatemala entails threats to the life and safety of the accused. In his role as the former human rights ombudsman, President De Leon Carpio knows perfectly well the serious implications this entails.

3. That a very serious step is the announcement by large landowners accusing peasant organizations of planning and acting within the framework of URNG plans. In recent days, verbal terrorism has regrettably resulted in the murders and gunning down of activist peasants.

4. That all of the above, based on absolute lies, is intensifying the atmosphere of terror, unleashing a wave of repression, aimed at preventing every expression in support of popular demands and human rights. All this represents part of recurring noncompliance with the Global Accord on Human Rights, which is the only impediment in the resumption of negotiations.

STATES

a. That together with the increase of the campaign of terror, disinformation, and psychological warfare against the political positions and military operations of the URNG are massively and shamelessly being pursued.

b. That it is absolutely false that the URNG has violated the International Humanitarian War Law with its operations. We have neither attacked nor bothered the civilian population. It is a lie we have kidnapped or detained the wife of a retired general. At no time have we harassed any community, and the death of an officer in Comalapa took place in an intense battle.

c. That this campaign of lies and falsehoods is designed only to project a negative image of the URNG as a group that violates human rights. This is done to discredit the URNG but, above all, to disqualify it as a legitimate voice, and thus to continue blocking the normal development of the negotiating process.

URGES

To report acts of repression against peoples and social organizations, as well as the Mayan people.

To condemn, blame, and ask the government of the Republic and the Army's High Command for immediate rejection of over these policies.

That the international community devote greater attention to these serious incidents.

GENERAL COMMAND OF THE URNG

[Signed] Commander Rolando Moran

Commander Pablo Monsanto

Commander Gaspar Ilom

Carlos Gonzalez, SG [secretary general] of the CC [Central Committee] of the PGT [Guatemalan Labor Party]

[Dated] 21 September 1994

Honduras

Police Evict Rioters Inside Economy Ministry

PA2409204694 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 22 Sep 94 p 85

[Report by Francisco Hernandez Umanzor]

[Excerpts] Several people were injured and beaten yesterday when riot police violently evicted a group of Canaan neighborhood residents who had forced their way into the Economy Ministry in this capital using sticks, knives, bottles, and rocks to demand a price reduction in the family basket.

The Economy Ministry was a living hell for more than three hours due to the collective hysteria of its employees, who were ordered out of the building minutes later to avoid any further unpleasant incidents.

Destroyed Offices

At about 1030, Canaan neighborhood residents began entering the building through the main gates in an orderly manner so as not to arouse the suspicion of the only security guard working in the building.

When a considerable number of them had entered the building, they proceeded to open the main gates, allowing the demonstrators to storm the building until they reached the press office, which they practically destroyed. They also destroyed the offices of the Petroleum Administration Commission (CAP), whose director, Norma Rauda, was held hostage for several minutes until Economy Minister Delmer Urbizo Panting came out to talk to the demonstrators. [passage omitted]

"I am here because I consider myself one of the people, and we are aware of the difficult situation the country is experiencing, a situation that has been inherited from the previous government," he stated. [passage omitted]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

He asked residents to make a nationwide call to the country's businessmen, especially to those who have no social responsibility and arbitrarily increase prices, and to the groups that do not feel any remorse for engaging in price gouging.

Later the minister asked the demonstrators to form a commission to initiate a dialogue, a request to which the Canaan neighborhood residents agreed.

Reprimand

While the minister talked to the commission members in the waiting room of Deputy Economy Minister Otto Martinez' office, residents at the other end of the building continued to shout slogans and demand solutions to their problems before the nervous eyes of five members of the Public Security Forces (FSP) who had arrived to restore order.

Community leader Manuel de Jesus Ramirez reprimanded the economy minister, saying that in view of the government's indifference in solving their social problems, "we, the residents of Canaan neighborhood, look like walking corpses, nothing but skeletons, for lack of food and medicine." [passage omitted]

Ramirez said the first time they protested at the Economy Ministry the authorities made several promises that were never kept, so this time "our struggle is just beginning, and we are willing to shed our last drop of blood to see that our rights are respected."

The economy minister asked the residents to provide evidence of the businesses that increase prices illegally and hoard products so he could take action immediately. [passage omitted]

He also promised he would create a consumer affairs office in the ministry to handle the complaints of those who feel they have been adversely affected and to proceed against those who are responsible.

"If I do not keep my word, you can take over the Economy Ministry as often as you like. I will even lend you my keys," the minister said. He also promised to meet with the residents, Economy Ministry officials, industrialists, and businessmen.

The economy minister promised to meet with the commission members today to begin a series of talks to solve the problems of the Canaan neighborhood residents, who promised to immediately leave the building.

Pitched Battle

Just when the minister was shaking hands with the commission members, however, riot police and "Cobra" units surrounded the ministry building. Since they were incapable of dispersing the demonstrators, the riot police hurled a tear gas bomb, and a pitched battle ensued. [passage omitted]

It was at this moment, approximately 1400, when the police began to use clubs, bombs, and firearms with rubber bullets. [passage omitted]

Outside the building the angry residents reacted by throwing rocks and bottles, which led to the total destruction of the building's front windows.

The battle also adversely affected nearby businesses, which sustained less damage as their owners had already closed up shop. [passage omitted]

The demonstrators were later seen carrying the injured to safety. Just when everyone thought things were returning to normal, the riot police who had cordoned off the area were showered with rocks and bottles thrown by the demonstrators who had gone into the street.

Several policemen were hit in the head, so they decided to open fire, but using rubber bullets as ordered by the officers.

They also proceeded to arrest the mob leaders, who never stopped urging the demonstrators, most of them women and children, to provoke the police. [passage omitted]

Finally, after shouting slogans and making threats, the residents of Canaan neighborhood began to leave and tranquillity returned to the area amid smoke, shattered windows, and uprooted trees.

This is the second time the residents of Canaan neighborhood have occupied the Economy Ministry, always with the purpose of demanding solutions to their problems.

Discua on Police Budget, Civilian Control

PA2609035694 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Report by Lucia Alvarado; from the "Morning Paper" newscast; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Alvarado] General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has said that the Armed Forces High Command decided to allot 50 percent of the increase in the military institution's 1995 budget to the public security forces:

[Discua] "I think that if the increase is approved [words indistinct] 50 percent will be alloted to the police. This will be very helpful. The president already offered to increase the number of policemen, and I hope that their salaries will also be increased, because 600 lempiras to face criminals... [pauses] you already witnessed yesterday's incidents in which several policemen were viciously killed, because that incident in El Carrizal was an outrage. The wounded soldier, pardon me, I meant the wounded policeman was already on the ground when he was finished off with impunity in front of all the witnesses, in fact, [words indistinct] the criminal who killed him."

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Alvarado] In the opinion of the military chief, it is necessary to analyze what happened on Wednesday afternoon in the capital and during similar actions in San Pedro Sula:

[Discua] "We must make a [word indistinct] analysis. The problem facing this country is structural, socioeconomic. We are not viewing the situation very clearly. Let us not blindfold ourselves; let us not cover the sun with a finger. It is very easy to blame the police for crimes. People could say: the police are responsible for crime and violence. But we must reflect and pinpoint the factors that influence violence: [words indistinct], family background and the number of single mothers we have here. There is desperation when there is no work, when a lot of unemployed take to the streets. Crime is born, because I think that the deterioration of society is caused by hunger and the responsibilities that these people have to their families and the fact that they are unable to meet such family needs."

[Alvarado] As for a package of economic measures that the National Congress is about to debate, Gen. Discua said that it must be thoroughly analyzed:

[Discua] "We must first analyze them carefully [words indistinct] because the remedy could turn out to be worse than the disease, because [words indistinct]. As I said, many have given their opinion on that [words indistinct] members of the National Congress are indeed thinking about that, and I also think that the president's intent is not to cause problems, but to find a solutions to them."

[Alvarado] As for juvenile delinquency, the general said that institutions, such as the Supreme Court, police, and Attorney General's Office, must meet to find a solution:

[Discua] "The police, Attorney General's Office, and the Supreme Court of Justice should meet to find a solution to the problem. Sincerely, as commander in chief, I would not want to give recommendations, but I think that the various leaders of the country's organizations should meet to find a solution to the problem."

[Alvarado] Gen. Discua said that an immediate solution would be to revive the National Reconciliation Commission:

[Discua] "It is about time that the private sector and Catholic Church met...[pauses] I think that at this time the National Reconciliation Commission should play a (?determinant) role in holding a meeting to focus on the problem of violence. We cannot say that a solution is just around the corner; this is a very long process. All countries are facing this problem."

[Alvarado] Gen. Discua said that Army members will support the police as much as necessary to control the situation. He was also consulted on whether the police should be transferred to civilian power. Discua said that they already presented documents and studies to the president of the republic and that everything is in progress:

[Discua] "The Armed Forces accepted this not because we are incapable, but because I think that the process of transferring the police to the hands of the executive branch, to wherever the president indicates, is the best course of action. The Armed Forces, as an institution—be it the Army, Air Force, or Navy—have specific constitutional duties. Of course, in order to achieve this, the Constitution of the republic and the Armed Forces Charter would have to be amended. There has been much progress in this regard [words indistinct] that the president call us through a commission or that a Congress commission be established to finally define the status of the police."

[Alvarado] Gen. Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, insisted that transferring the police to the executive branch does not mean that the military is incapable of leading it.

Panama

President Pardons Noriega Collaborators, Others

PA2309230094 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 2116 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Telephone report by Miriam Mercedes Valdes from the Government and Justice Ministry Building in Panama City]

[Text] Government and Justice Minister Raul Montenegro has reported that, via Executive Decree 469 of 23 September 1994, the following people have been pardoned on instructions from President Ernesto Perez Balladares.

[Begin Montenegro recording] According to Paragraph 12 of Article 169 of the Constitution, the people named in the decree have been pardoned. These people may have been investigated, charged, accused, or sentenced for alleged crimes and offenses against freedom, honor, public trust, the state's legal status, public administration, or the administration of justice. The trials of these people may be in the summary stages, may be completed, or sentences may have been imposed on them following guilty verdicts. The decree includes cases reopened after a definitive acquittal has been pronounced, as well as cases in which no sentence has been passed after four years, no trial summons has been issued, or the corresponding hearing has not been held, whether or not an appeal ruling has been made, or whether or not any legal proceedings are still pending. [end recording]

The most prominent people on the list include Carlos Arellano Lennox, Guillermo Cochez, Raul Ossa, Jorge Ruben Rosas, Alberto Aleman Boyd, Florencio Asprilla,

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Carlos Barsallo, Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque, journalists Escolastico Calvo and James Aparicio, and others.

[Paris AFP in Spanish at 2220 GMT on 23 September transmits a related 190-word, Panama City-datelined report that adds the decree grants pardons to "222 civilian and military collaborators of ousted General Manuel Antonio Noriega," excluding Noriega himself; former Chief of General Staff Marco Justine; Nivaldo Madrinan, former head of the National Investigations Department; and Rafael Arosemena, former manager of Banco Nacional.]

Opposition Questions Pardons

PA2609044294 Panama City MAGAZINE DOMINICAL EL SIGLO in Spanish 25 Sep 94 pp 1, 8

[Report by Jose Gonzalez Batista]

[Text] Political sectors opposed to the new administration of President Ernesto Perez Balladares questioned yesterday the pardon that benefits civilians and former soldiers charged with common crimes.

Civic Renewal Party President Carlos Abadia said he disagreed with the pardon given by President Perez Balladares to several former government officials and soldiers who committed crimes during past regimes.

Abadia maintained "that this pardon will not be effective if leaders do not change their outlook regarding national reconciliation, which does not mean to grant pardons to people who have been tried and sentenced for common crimes."

He added: "We hope the next and future governments do not grant presidential pardons to people who have been convicted of breaking laws related to common crimes."

President Ernesto Perez Balladares granted pardons to 216 people this Friday. The people were mostly former soldiers and civilians under investigation for crimes related to homicide, coup attempts, terrorism, and crimes against the administration of justice.

A source from the Justice Ministry National Corrections Directorate has reported that the people who were pardoned will be released as of 0800 on Monday, 26 September.

At least 60 former soldiers and civilians who were arrested after the U.S. invasion of Panama on 20 December 1989 still remain in the country's jails.

Among the people who were pardoned and can leave prison are: Carlos Augusto Villalaz, Anselmo Guaynora, Lucinio Miranda, Luis Cordoba, Otilio Miranda, Nino Vaprio, Anibal Maylin, Felipe Camargo, and other soldiers and civilians.

President on Dismissals, Modernization, Budget

PA2609041194 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 24 Sep 94

[From the "Day to Day" newscast]

[Text] Dismissals, reforms, and budget limitations are among the topics President Ernesto Perez Balladares has discussed. He denies allegations of mass dismissals, saying that the decrees signed for the dismissal of employees have been fully justified, as in the case of customs, where corruption was proven. President Perez also said that the country's legislation is in need of a number of changes, including changes in the Labor Code.

[Begin recording] [Perez] Sometimes it is difficult for a person to understand how a change will benefit him in the medium or short term. Sometimes it is difficult to try to raise the standard of living of an individual who has not had the benefit of an education, and we sometimes do this against that person's own will.

On the issue of Panamanian modernization, the question is not whether or not it will be done; the question is whether it will be a joint effort by all the forces, which is what I hope for, or if we will encounter certain differences which, hopefully, will not happen. Modernization, however, will take place at any rate.

[Unidentified correspondent] The changes are coming [words indistinct]

[Perez] As president, I cannot allow the country to be at a standstill, I cannot allow it to stand at a train station watching the train of development go by while we try to stop it with our hands. We must rise up. [end recording]

The president added that privatizations will take place, although not just for the sake of doing so.

[Begin Perez recording] If we can prove that most of the Panamanian community will benefit from the private sector's carrying out an activity that is currently carried out by the state, we will privatize that activity. Otherwise we will not. The purpose is not to benefit any particular group but most Panamanians. [end recording]

The president added that 1995's budget is based on last year's budget and includes revenues from the sale of 20 buildings at the Colon Free Zone, which were never sold, thereby causing a budget deficit, the effects of which will now be felt. He said, however, that planned projects will be executed.

Cuban Foreign Minister's Cousin Reportedly Among Refugees

PA2509175494 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 25 Sep 94 p e-48

[From "The Griper" column]

[Text] Robaina's cousin is a rafter. Noel Robaina is the name of Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina's cousin. Noel is one of the rafters in Camp No. 1 in Nuevo Emperador, which is managed by the U.S. Army.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Argentina

CGT Opens Menem Reelection Campaign, President Speaks

PY2309155294 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0148 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Buenos Aires, 22 Sep (NA)—The General Labor Confederation (CGT) today ratified its support for the reelection of President Carlos Menem and of Buenos Aires Province Governor Eduardo Duhalde during a ceremony in which the Coordinating Board of Peronist Workers [Mesa de Convocatoria de Trabajadores Peronistas], the political arm of the CGT with an eye to the 1995 elections, was launched. The head of state was the main speaker.

Addressing an audience of some 5,000 persons that congregated at the Obras Publicas Stadium, Menem highlighted his role of "beloved disciple of (Juan) Peron and of Eva Peron," and he criticized the political leaders that have abandoned the Justicialist Party.

Menem also highlighted the Convertibility Plan, the struggle against poverty, and the abolishing of the obligatory military service as some of the outstanding achievements of his administration, although he did admit that "there are some things that are not functioning."

"Many of you who are here know that this Peronist felt he had been unjustly relegated, but I have never thought of abandoning the ranks of the Justicialist Party," Menem said.

In this respect, and referring to Mendoza Province Senator Jose Octavio Bordon, he highlighted the fact that "those who constantly speak about ethics have not heard about the ethics of loyalty," and he added that "he who leaves without being kicked out returns without having been called back."

Menem criticized "those who constantly speak about ethics," indicating that when "someone sits down at my table and speaks all the time about honesty and limpidness, I always count the cutlery just in case."

"No matter how much those former comrades try to seek faults, Justicialism pulses in my mind, my blood, and in my heart," the chief of state said.

He added that "in not looking for the easy things" he preferred "to leave through the front door representing all Argentines and not through the back door or the door on the left."

He forecast that Justicialism will win in the 14 May 1995 presidential elections "without a second round," and he lauded Governor Duhalde when he said that "the province has never had such a governor as it has now."

Menem stressed that what has already been done "is not enough," and he added that "growth with equality is what is needed, and that is what we are now undertaking."

In this respect, he stated that "it would seem that some speak about poverty in Argentina as though they had invented gunpowder, while Justicialism was conceived in 1945 to combat poverty."

"The structural and marginal poverty pains us," the president said, and he added that during his tenure "poverty has declined 12 percent."

Referring to the unemployment problem, Menem stressed that "the unemployment rate is similar to unemployment rates in other parts of the world," and he indicated that currently "there are more people, such as women, seeking employment."

"As the process advances, we will continue to generate sources of employment," he said.

Referring to the charges of corruption, he stated that "they now want an angelical realm, but that is not for this world."

"No one can discriminate between those who consider themselves angels and we who break our backs working every day," he said.

He indicated that the government has "successfully" fought corruption, and he emphasized that "no one has made such a huge effort as this government to put an end to corruption."

He maintained that Justicialism "does not appeal to the people only at election times because it is always campaigning; it campaigns in a somewhat secret way, but it is always campaigning."

Menem said that "there are still four governors who cannot be reelected, but we are going to achieve their reelection."

Government Supports Salinas' Bid for WTO Presidency

PA2609000794 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 0430 GMT 24 Sep 94

[From the "24 Hours" newscast]

[Text] On 23 September, Fernando Petrella, Argentine deputy foreign relations minister, reported that Argentina has reconsidered its position and is now supporting [Mexican] President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's World Trade Organization [WTO] presidential bid. The Argentine reconsideration followed Brazil's decision to withdraw former Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero's WTO presidential bid.

Meanwhile, Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim announced Brazil will support Salinas. The Chilean, Costa Rican, and Colombian foreign ministers confirmed their support for Salinas' bid.

Argentina To Propose End to Subsidies at Americas Summit

PY2409031094 Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 22 Sep 94 p 5

[Article by Maria Helena Tachinardi from Brasilia]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] Argentine Foreign Minister Guido Di Tella yesterday said that at the Americas Summit to be held 10-11 December in Miami, Argentina will propose the end of all kinds of subsidies. Commenting that his country loses more than $100 million per year as a result of the subsidized wheat that Germany and Canada export to Brazil, Di Tella told this newspaper that "this is basically a message to the United States and Canada."

The Argentine proposal has surprised the Brazilian diplomats, because so far this issue has not been discussed by Latin American and Caribbean countries within the framework of the Rio Group, which has been made responsible for suggesting to the U.S. Government—the Americas Summit host—an agenda of topics. Asked about the issue, Foreign Minister Celso Amorim said that he "has nothing against" the Argentine suggestion, because during the Uruguay Round of the GATT talks Brazil supported an end to subsidies.

The Argentine Government fully agrees with the Clinton administration's proposal to discuss in Miami the topic of "good governance" [preceding two words in English] (the effectiveness and openness of the government), which opposes corruption. The Argentine minister defended the Menem administration's privatization policy which, according to him, "has drastically reduced corruption and government participation in businesses." Brazil is not against discussing the "good governance" topic, but it does not like the idea of seeing the Americas Summit draft recipes on what the countries must do to make their governments more effective. "We are not asking the summit to decide on privatizing everything. Argentina believes that privatization eliminates corruption and allows the privatized companies to become more effective. We will propose that each country fight to achieve this goal as it can. We have a way of doing that, and it is very effective," Di Tella said.

Regarding Argentine-Brazilian relations, he said that the two countries have "common points of view on almost all important issues." He added that this "will become still more accentuated in the future." Reality, however, is different: Brazil and Argentina disagree on issues such as Cuba, Haiti, the expansion of the UN Security Council, and collective security in the hemisphere, as well as some of the relevant topics of the international agenda. To make its foreign policy credible, Argentina has been maintaining an unconditional alignment with the United States, and would like the other countries to do the same. According to Foreign Ministry sources, Brazilian foreign policy seeks predictability, or in other words bases its foreign policy on the same principles it adopted 40 years ago, in the days when San Thiago Dantas was foreign minister, and follows a line preaching independence from the United States.

Despite these differences, Di Tella recognizes that "a prosperous Brazil implies a prosperous Argentina." He said that Argentine businessmen count on a boom of exports to Brazil. Commenting on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which Argentina has already said it plans to join, Di Tella said that for the time being the agreement will not be expanded. "It would be unrealistic to try to incorporate the Common Market of the South into NAFTA right now," he said.

Bolivia

Police To Join Multinational Force in Haiti

PY2309192794 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1828 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] La Paz, 23 Sep (EFE)—Official sources told EFE today that the Bolivian police will participate with a group of 120 officers in the UN multinational forces for Haiti. The Bolivian police officers will travel to Port-au-Prince on Sunday, 25 September, and will remain in that country some 100 days. Their job will be to safeguard peace and humanitarian aid until the return to democracy has materialized, according to the sources. This is the first time Bolivia will contribute with police agents to a UN multinational force.

Complementary Economic Agreements Signed With Chile

PY2309160294 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 22 Sep 94

[Text] With the objective of strengthening bilateral trade, the Chilean economy minister and the Bolivian industry and commerce secretary have signed agreements expanding complementary economic accords signed last year.

[Begin National Industry Secretary Carlos Morales recording—identified by screen caption] As has been specified, we signed the first agreement through which Bolivia may have access to Chilean know-how. This will allow Bolivians to undertake programs applicable to our situation. [end recording]

A health and sanitation agreement applying to plants was also signed to expedite exports, particularly regarding tropical fruit from Bolivia to Chile. This will expand the Bolivian fruit export market.

Moreover, the Chilean economy minister also met with representatives from the different business chambers.

[Begin Chilean Economy Minister Alvaro Garcia recording, in progress] ...present possibility of Chilean products that may be of interest in Bolivia and learn about Bolivian products that may be of interest in Chile. In addition, I am aware of the visit of a group of businessmen interested in investing in Bolivia and of course in identifying different business possibilities. We are also very interested in studying the possible establishment of Chilean-Bolivian business associations so that we may undertake joint ventures in Chile. [end recording]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Bolivia and Chile also signed an agreement on the promotion and reciprocal protection of investments which will promote the flow of capital between the two countries.

Brazil

Army Training To Join Possible UN Force in Haiti

PY2309175494 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 22 Sep 94 p 17

[Text] Brasilia—According to a high-ranking source of the Army General Staff, three Army battalions are ready to embark for Haiti in a prospective UN peace mission. The battalions—one from Lorena (Sao Paulo), another from Petrolina (Pernambuco), and a third one from Sao Leopoldo (Rio Grande do Sul)—are waiting for President Itamar Franco's orders. They will go to Haiti in case Brazil decides to participate in a peace force that may be assembled by the United Nations. This force would help the Haitian de facto regime transfer government to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Marines stationed in Rio de Janeiro may also join the peace force.

Despite having received several requests from the U.S. Government, Brazil refused—from the beginning—to participate in the multinational intervention force headed by the United States. Brazil also abstained from voting at the United Nations in favor of sending occupation forces to Haiti. Itamaraty admits that the United States may solicit the participation of Brazilian soldiers in a peace force in Haiti, as occurred in the case of Mozambique, where Brazilian troops help maintain peace in disturbed regions of the country. According to Itamaraty, however, there is no possibility—in the short or medium term—of the United Nations really organizing this peace force.

Government Withdraws Ricupero's WTO Candidacy

PY2409000694 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 23 Sep 94 p 20

[Text] Geneva—Former Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero is no longer a candidate for director general of the World Trade Organization (WTO), which will replace GATT. Brazilian Government representatives announced here on 22 September the withdrawal of Ricupero's candidacy. Two weeks ago, Ricupero resigned his ministerial post in the wake of a scandal provoked by remarks he made off camera but which were picked up by satellite antennas. Ricupero admitted to concealing negative facts and to boasting of positive ones.

There are now only three candidates for the WTO. They are: Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari; former Italian Foreign Trade Minister Renato Ruggiero; and ROK Trade and Industry Minister Kim Chol-su. Ruggiero, a senior Fiat executive, has the support of the EU. Salinas's candidacy has been endorsed by the Americas, including the United States and Canada. Salinas should now obtain the support of Brazil and Argentina, which had endorsed Ricupero's candidacy.

Franco Not To Attend UN General Assembly Opening

PY2309182394 Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 22 Sep 94 p 5

[Article by Maria Helena Tachinardi]

[Text] Brasilia—President Itamar Franco will not fly to New York to attend the opening session of the 49th UN General Assembly on 26 September. The decision was announced yesterday by Itamaraty spokesman Luiz Fernando Benedini. On 20 September, President Franco had told Foreign Minister Celso Amorim that he would attend the meeting, but then he retracted this statement because he said he would remain in Brazil following up on internal events, Benedini said.

Amorim will represent President Franco, and on 24 September he will travel to New York, where he will remain for a week.

Meanwhile, in order to compensate for the cancellation of the planned visit by European Commission President Jacques Delors to Brasilia this week, the EU [European Union] has decided to send to New York three representatives to meet with the foreign ministers of Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay.

The meeting among the Mercosur [Common Market of the South] and the EU representatives will take place on 28 September with the purpose of making progress in the talks to eventually sign a free trade agreement, given that a customs unity and a common external tariff will come into effect next year within the Mercosur.

Import Taxes on 4,000 More Products Reduced

PY2309201194 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Report by Corvao Costa]

[Text] Import taxes on 4,000 products were cut from an average 20 to 14 percent as of 22 September through a provision signed by Finance Minister Ciro Gomes. The list includes cleaning products, drinks, cigarettes, tobacco, optical instruments, cast iron, textiles, clocks, tools, and musical instruments. The provision has thus brought forward the Common External Tariff, TEC, agreed within the Mercosur [Common Market of the South].

In the next few days, a new provision will be released reducing import taxes on chemical, pharmaceutical, and fertilizer products. Capital goods and informatics products, and other products on which import taxes have met the common TEC, will not be included.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Through this measure, the Finance Ministry economic policy team expects a reduction in tax collection of 10.6 million reals per month, but this will be compensated by increased import taxes of products below the TEC as of 1 January.

PT Prepares Parallel Vote Counting Network

PY2309202394 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO (Special Supplement) in Portuguese 22 Sep 94 p 3

[Text] The Workers Party [PT] is preparing a vote counting network that will operate parallel to the TSE (Superior Electoral Court) during the 3 October elections. The objective is to prevent fraud and expedite the release of the final results.

In addition to its parallel counting system, the PT will install its members and followers to supervise the vote and the counting.

PT Secretary General Gilberto Carvalho said they want supervisors everywhere. He said: "We want at least one supervisor per ballot box." The people recruited for this job are being trained all over the country.

The PT has already released 100,000 orientation manuals for the supervisors. The parallel vote counting mechanism will use a computer network. All information and results will be centralized by computer in Sao Paulo.

The work will be coordinated by PT leader Joaquin Soriano. He said: "The TSE computer network seems quite consistent, but it could make mistakes."

Lula's team plans to supervise the process from the casting of the vote to the counting at the TSE. The PT will also perform an exit poll.

Workers Party Coordinator Interviewed

PY2309221294 Montevideo BRECHA in Spanish 16 Sep 94 p 28

[Interview with Marco Aurelio Garcia, Workers Party (PT) government plan coordinator, by Dario Pignotti and Guga Dorea in Sao Paulo; date not given]

[Text] The scandal [involving an interview with Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero on Rede Globo] at a time when all the polls agreed that government candidate Fernando Henrique Cardoso would get more than 50 percent of the valid votes in the 3 October election, thanks to the success of the economic plan he conceived before leaving his post to Rubens Ricupero, must have come as a soothing balm to the PT electoral command.

Marco Aurelio Garcia, PT international relations secretary and a leading foreign minister candidate in an eventual PT government, says: "The real plan is like a Paraguayan Rolex [referring to false Rolex watches offered on the street of Asuncion], it will break down right after the election."

[BRECHA] Is the Ricupero scandal enough to change the trend favoring Cardoso?

[Garcia] We will have a runoff election in Brazil. I am not saying we will come first, I am saying the president will be elected on 15 November. We do not overlook the effects of the scandal involving former Minister Ricupero, which only confirmed our complaints to the Superior Electoral Court (TSE) over the handing over of 300,000 low cost housing units among other things. It is clear that there is an ideological affinity between the government and Fernando Henrique Cardoso, and also that the state apparatus manipulates Rede Globo.

The government-Cardoso link, far from being severed, has been strengthened. Proof of this are the negotiations between President Itamar Franco and Fernando Henrique Cardoso to appoint Ciro Gomes to replace Ricupero.

Things will be quite different for Cardoso in a runoff election, and his electoral campaign command is aware of it. His advisers know the plan has flaws, like an accumulated inflation of 12 percent, the loss in the purchasing power of salaries, tariff pressures on state companies, and possible strikes like the one called by the CUT [Sole Workers Center] for 12 September.

We will have equal publicity time after 3 October. The advantage of the alliance PSDB-PFL-PTB [Brazilian Social Democracy Party—Liberal Front Party—Brazilian Workers Party], which results from a greater number of deputies on their tickets and consequently more air time than the PT, will end on 3 October and Lula [Luis Inacio Lula da Silva] and Fernando Henrique Cardoso will polarize the options from then on.

[BRECHA] Is it a race against the clock?

[Garcia] Without doubt. They are betting everything they have on the 3 October election and we are doing the same on the 15 November runoff. The government is already speaking about a package of deep measures for 4 October, that is, they are preparing the next government's work ahead of time.

[BRECHA] What will you do about the Ricupero-Globo case?

[Garcia] At the legal level, we have decided to commission Attorney Luis Eduardo Greenhalgh, a member of the campaign command, to present the tapes aired by Rede Globo to the TSE. We will request the application of the article on noneligibility against Cardoso for the use of state resources in favor of a candidate. At the political level, we will insist on the issue of complicity among the government, Cardoso, and Globo.

[BRECHA] Will you start a war against Globo?

[Garcia] No. Globo never liked us and Lula is very clear when he speaks against the group, but we will not start a war against them. I want to be clear: Lula is a real power option in Brazil and Globo maintains a dialogue with us.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

They are undoubtedly committed to Cardoso's success but an oligopoly that controls a strategic area like information and plans for the long term cannot reject a political scenario with the PT in power.

[BRECHA] What would be the impact of a PT victory in Brazil on Uruguay's 27 November elections?

[Garcia] Brazil faces a runoff election. That is, the political future of two of the four Mercosur [Common Market of the South] nations will be decided between 15 and 27 November. We have very friendly relations with the Uruguayan Broad Front, which is not a determinant factor, but our victory should contribute to improve Tabare Vazquez's performance.

Our countries have always had a special affinity. I remember the great mobilization by the Uruguayan people in defense of the left and democracy when the military staged a coup in my country.

The integration process, which was made more dynamic by the process of democratic restoration in the Southern Cone, supposes a broadening of political and economic scenarios. Each national scenario will be affected by events in the subregional unit. Last year we visited Montevideo at the invitation of the Broad Front. Our hosts, showing traditional Uruguayan political culture, included meetings with President Luis Alberto Lacalle and Julio Maria Sanguinetti in Lula's agenda. Our conversation with Sanguinetti on Latin American affairs was very interesting.

[BRECHA] What will the PT do to fight inflation?

[Garcia] We think inflation cannot be beaten with monetary solutions such as the real plan. It is important to strive for stability, but we cannot beat inflation this way. This fight will take time and measures to control it. We must attack the structural causes of inflation. We speak of inflation social control elements. We have a general formula appropriate of an opposition party, but no detailed plan. We do not "handle" the state apparatus or control the information on what will happen in the market from now until the next government comes to power. But the government did not have a plan either, only measures that were gradually implemented before each stage of the real plan.

[BRECHA] What do PT policies say about state companies?

[Garcia] We favor the preservation of public character, more than state ownership, in state companies within three strategic areas: Oil, energy, and telecommunications. We will not oppose any democratically decided administrative decision. We do not have an ideological position on privatizations as the left did 30 years ago. We do not rule out complementary or full participation of private capitals in areas such as telecommunications.

In some cases full state ownership is indispensable. Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] must be a monopoly for economic, geopolitical, and administrative reasons. The company's efficiency lies in its vertical operative control.

[BRECHA] Have you considered extending your coalition to include Leonel Brizola (PDT) [Democratic Labor Party] and Orestes Quercia (PMDB) [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] in a possible second round?

[Garcia] We will seek new alliances in a second round. It is well known that we have not got on very well with Brizola since 1989, but I think the differences are subjective and derived from a PT refusal to join a single ticket in the 1990 Rio de Janeiro gubernatorial election which the PDT leader finally won. Brizola gave us a very loyal support during the 1989 election and we have an electoral debt with him. We could agree with Quercia on proposals.

[BRECHA] But an alliance with a politician who is suspected of involvement in corruption, like Quercia, would contradict the speech on ethics that has identified the PT since [former President Fernando Collor's] impeachment, would it not?

[Garcia] I did not talk about an alliance with Quercia, but about a process of convergence. Here we must consider Quercia's position because Fernando Henrique Cardoso will absorb the PMDB, which is still the largest party in Brazil, if he wins the election. Some PMDB factions support Cardoso while others support Quercia. We have very similar viewpoints with some of these groups, particularly regarding our criticism of neoliberalism and the proposal of an alternative economic model.

[BRECHA] Is Fernando Henrique Cardoso the right wing?

[Garcia] No. He is not the right wing, but he is the candidate who best represents the right. A few days ago a foreign bank official mentioned that the right did not have a candidate in Brazil. I told him that he was wrong because if we found 500 people from the right, and all of them voted for Cardoso, then we had to conclude that Cardoso was the candidate of the right. When I lived in Chile I learned that when you win with the right it is the right that wins. No matter how skillful Cardoso might be, he will be unable to govern and disregard the coalition of parties that support his candidacy, something he should be very much aware of, unless he also intends to renounce his background as a sociologist turned politician.

He now associates himself with very conservative groups, not only in the ideological sense but also through his political style: Patronage and state privatizations for his own benefit. The PSDB-PFL-PTB coalition announced a Mexican style solidarity plan, which is inappropriate for this country's crisis and inapplicable in the hands of the northeast PFL "colonels."

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[BRECHA] In mid-June Lula lead Cardoso by more than 16 points. Now Lula trails Cardoso by 22 points. Did this situation aggravate the party's internal situation and campaign coordination?

[Garcia] I want to categorically deny journalistic reports on party discrepancies and Lula's alleged intervention to iron out differences in the campaign coordination command. We have never denied differences among internal PT factions. Our position was spelled out in documents approved at the end of our ninth meeting. Our government program was approved by 85 percent of the delegates attending that meeting. There is a lot of talk about alleged radicals and alleged moderates, but it is not that simple. I will give you an example. The decision to separate Paulo Bisol as running mate was supported by some "radicals" and "moderates" and opposed by other "radicals" and other "moderates."

I personally think we wrongly evaluated the psychological impact of the real on the population. That could have affected the campaign strategy.

The 1989 campaign was quite different from this one. We had a 3.7 percent support in August 1989. This year's surveys gave us a 42 percent support in July. Our followers read the newspapers, saw our candidate's continuous climb, and sat back and relaxed. This is why we are making a strong call to our followers to come out into the streets again.

Chile

Government States 'Concern' Over Haiti Situation

PY2409034094 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2234 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Santiago, 23 Sep (EFE)—Chilean Foreign Minister Jose Miguel Insulza today expressed the Chilean Government's concern that the "legitimate and constitutional" government headed by President Jean Bertrand Aristide has not yet been installed.

Insulza said: "We were under the impression that the intervention in Haiti would result in the immediate restoration of the constitutional government, but this has not yet occurred."

Insulza reasserted that the Chilean Government is "extremely pleased" that violence had been averted in Haiti," [no opening quotation marks as received] and that a solution that excludes the use of force is being sought, because an invasion "is never pleasant nor welcome."

He said: "We are carefully following developments. We are worried that the legitimate government, the constitutional government, has not yet been restored in Haiti."

Insulza stated that Chile's cooperation in the rebuilding of Haiti is subject to this restoration and to a request by the Haitian constitutional government.

Insulza said: "After a positive assessment of the situation, we will be closely watching developments over the next few days." He added that the return to Port-au-Prince of Luis Larrain, the Chilean ambassador to Haiti, "is subject to the development of events."

Government Favors Mexico's Salinas To Head WTO

PY2409030894 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1902 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Excerpt] Santiago, 24 Sep (EFE)—Chilean Foreign Minister Jose Miguel Insulza today confirmed the Chilean Government's official support for Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's candidacy to head the general directorate of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Insulza reported that the Chilean mission in Geneva was instructed today to deliver Chile's official support for Salinas de Gortari's candidacy to the GATT secretariat's office.

The Mexican president is the only remaining Latin American candidate for the WTO directorate, after former Brazilian Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero's candidacy was officially withdrawn on 22 September.

The establishment of the WTO, which as of January 1995 will regulate international trade, was decided during an international summit held in Morocco during which the Uruguayan Round of the GATT talks was approved. [passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Insulza Interviewed

PY2309150094 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 1100 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Studio interview with newly appointed Foreign Minister Jose Miguel Insulza by Alejandro Guillen—live]

[Text] [Guillen] Good morning, Minister.

[Insulza] Good morning.

[Guillen] Well, before we get down to business, let me ask you who all those people who embraced you on Monday were. Were they members of your family, friends? It was quite eye-catching.

[Insulza] Well, many of them were actually friends of mine. As for relatives, there was only my wife and my children. But there were also some good friends I have made at the Chilean Foreign Ministry these past days, months, during which we had quite a good administration, and who were happy there will be a certain continuity in the Foreign Ministry leadership, although they were sad about Minister (Carlos) Figueroa's departure.

[Guillen] Minister, when did you find out you had been named foreign minister, because it was precisely your case that hinted at the possibility of a cabinet change?

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Insulza] Yes, but I must say I only learned about it on Tuesday, 20 September, in the morning, when the president of the Republic offered me the post. Foreign Minister Figueroa merely asked me to return to Chile from the Netherlands. He did not tell my why, he just assured me....

[Guillen, interrupting] Did something deep inside tell you?

[Insulza] I told Figueroa I didn't have the slightest idea what it was all about, but he told me he couldn't say anything other than to rest assured that if it was bad news, he would tell me immediately, and to just return to the country. That was all he said to calm me because I had a long flight back and the uncertainty would have been painful.

[Guillen] Minister, you arrive at this post at a rather difficult moment. We were just talking about the Chilean exporters' concern over the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences [GSP] that is about to expire.

[Insulza] Yes.

[Guillen] Could this represent a serious problem in the short term?

[Insulza] Yes. The first thing that must be stated, as the report pointed out, is that this is a generalized system. In other words, it benefits approximately 100 developing countries. Chile, in fact, only represents one percent of U.S. imports that benefit with this system. Therefore, there is little Chile alone can do about this issue. This is not a bilateral issue. But, this system was extended some time ago for another 15 months while the GATT agreement was signed and while the new U.S. trade law was drafted and we are quite optimistic that it is still possible.... [changes thought] Yesterday we were informed that the U.S. Government has already asked Congress to extend the GSP for another nine or 10 months until GATT Round custom taxes are reviewed and a new, permanent GSP is established.

[Guillen] Now, then, in view of the U.S. policy regarding the GATT, will Chile be able to maintain this privilege regarding....

[Insulza, interrupting] Of course. There are a series of privileges contained in the GSP, such as unilateral concessions, that have now been included in the GATT agreement, which means they are now included, so to say, in a more stable system because the GATT is an international treaty and the GSP entails unilateral U.S. concessions. But there are other concessions which, we hope, will be maintained for Chilean as well as other countries' exports.

[Guillen] Now, then, the chances of joining NAFTA seem more and more remote. Wasn't the fast track issue a blow for Chile?

[Insulza] Look here, looking at the Chilean case, at the legal situation in Chile, we have something similar to the fast track method. For instance, the president of the Republic signs an agreement, which is submitted to Congress, and the latter either approves or rejects it. That is not the case in the United States. The U.S. Congress may amend a treaty and this causes a lot of problems. So they invented the fast track system to approve packages of agreements. Now, then, we do not really understand why this problem involving the U.S. congressional mechanism should hinder U.S.-Chilean negotiations for so long. On one hand, each country respects the other's legal system, the procedures they use, but we feel that the domestic procedures for the approval of treaties—in which we do not meddle—is one thing, and international negotiations in which we are interested, and which should be able to develop regardless of these mechanisms, is another issue. This is what has caused us concern during the past few months.

[Guillen] Minister, you are going to make the news today because, as I understand, at approximately 1130 you are going to announce your trip to the United Nations where, I believe, more than anything you are going to participate in the General Assembly.

[Insulza] That is so. On Tuesday, 27 September, in the afternoon, I am going to appear before the UN General Assembly. The UN General Assembly starts on Monday, 26 September, according to tradition, with a speech by the Brazilian president. Other heads of state will make speeches after him.

[Guillen] What are you going to announce, because I believe you are taking an announcement to the UN General Assembly?

[Insulza] No. What I am going to try to do, basically, is to outline Chilean foreign policy. I believe I will affirm a few things the Chileans are aware of, such as our willingness to fully participate in peace and safety processes throughout the world, and our willingness, also, to promote, through the United Nations, a series of activities in the economic and social arena, especially the Social Development Summit to be held next March in Copenhagen, which, as you know, is a Chilean initiative and, incidentally, is going well. I am going to try to describe the main guidelines of our foreign policy regarding economic aspects, what we have called open regionalism. In other words, it will be a speech that combines an outline of our foreign policy with our opinion on the great peace and safety issues as well as the great economic and social issues of the modern world.

[Guillen] Thank you very much, Minister.

[Insulza] Thank you.

Interior Minister Meets Coalition Leaders

PY2409004994 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Speakers identified by caption on screen]

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Text] The Socialist Party [PS] has asked the interior minister for clear and precise rules regarding the government's future relationship with the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD]. The PS criticized the fact that presidential powers are being exercised excessively.

This morning Interior Minister Carlos Figueroa continued his round of meetings with the political parties. He met the PS leadership, headed by Camilo Escalona with whom he discussed the consequences of the cabinet changes. The PS is concerned because it is not represented in the new government team.

The PS also voiced concern over the relationship between the new authorities and the CPPD member parties. Escalona said:

[Begin Escalona recording] The PS is asking the government for clear and precise rules so that the political parties will know when we will be consulted or when we will not be consulted. In other words, the type of relationship. [end recording]

Minister Figueroa then met with the Party for Democracy [PPD] leadership, headed by Jorge Schaulsohn. The PPD has fully endorsed the cabinet change because it believes it was necessary, opportune, and because the previous formula was a failure.

Schaulsohn believes the new team will not damage the relationship with the CPPD, on the contrary, it will become stronger. He said:

[Begin Schaulsohn recording] I believe it will improve the coordination among the government team. There will be a more frank, open, fluid, clear relationship between the government and the political parties, with valid interlocutors who maintain the required daily relationship with the president of the Republic. [end recording]

Figueroa also met with PDI [Leftist Democratic Participation Movement], headed by Fanny Pollarolo, who voiced understanding for the cabinet changes and said they are certain the CPPD will grow stronger.

Lastly, Figueroa met with the Center Center Union [UCC] leadership, headed by Francisco Javier Errazuriz. He said:

[Begin Errazuriz recording] We will support, above legitimate political partisan differences, those issues we deem important to solve the country's true problems, not only socio-economic problems but also the political-institutional problems. [end recording]

Colombia

Reactions to, Discussions of Helicopter Incident

Defense Minister Interviewed

PA2309160094 Santa Fe de Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Jose Fernando Botero Zea by Dario Arizmendi in Santa Fe de Bogota; from "Caracol's 0600 to 0900" newscast—live]

[Text] [Arizmendi] Good morning, Minister. We are very glad that you and the other officials emerged unharmed from yesterday's scare.

[Botero] Thank you, Dario. Fortunately, things turned out well, but it was certainly an unforgettable experience.

[Arizmendi] How many helicopters were involved?

[Botero] There were five helicopters transporting passengers and journalists, in addition to a helicopter gunship, which was on a security mission escorting us. A total of six helicopters participated in the operation, but one was really for strategic protection and therefore was not transporting any passengers.

[Arizmendi] Were the other five helicopters gunships?

[Botero] The other five helicopters were equipped with M-60 machine guns, which is a very powerful weapon. They were not helicopter gunships because they did not have missiles or other powerful weapons. They were, however, equipped with two M-60 machine guns, which, as I said, is a very powerful weapon.

[Arizmendi] Who was traveling in the helicopter with you, Minister?

[Botero] I was accompanied by the Army commander, the police director, and two other people. Neither the U.S. ambassador nor the U.S. assistant secretary of defense were with me, as reported by the media. Those reports are false. They were in another helicopter. The truth is that I was in the first helicopter because I intended to land before the other helicopters arrived. The first helicopter attacked by the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] was mine, but we did not return fire. The second helicopter, which was transporting the U.S. ambassador and the U.S. assistant secretary of defense, was the one that returned fire, which resulted in an exchange of fire, fortunately without any consequences.

[Arizmendi] Why was there no return fire in your case? Why were the M-60's not used to respond to the shots from the ground?

[Botero] Because my main concern, and that of the others, was to alert the other helicopters as soon as possible. Had we returned fire right away, the other helicopters would have surely faced greater danger. Therefore, our instructions were clearly to concentrate on warning the helicopters behind us as soon as possible about the attack so they could increase their altitude to avoid the danger. That was why we did not return fire.

The helicopter in which the ambassador was traveling received the message and started maneuvering to leave the area, but, as I said, in this case it did return fire.

[Arizmendi] What was the aircraft's altitude at the time of the attack?

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Botero] I would say approximately 80 to 100 meters. We were already in what is known as the 360, the circulating motion to land the helicopter. We were in the second stage of the operation and had already made two circles; in other words, we were neither at the highest altitude nor on the ground. We were in between, getting ready to land. Everything was going as planned. We were approaching the landing site near the two huge laboratories that were discovered Wednesday afternoon. In fact, that was the objective of the visit. The national government wanted U.S. Government officials to see firsthand the extremely difficult conditions under which we are waging the struggle against drug trafficking. We wanted them to visit these two laboratories, which produced a large amount of cocaine. They are in the middle of the Caqueta jungle, an area difficult to access and where controls are very difficult due to the strong presence of the FARC 14th Front. The link between guerrillas and drug traffickers is one of the most serious obstacles we face to being successful in the struggle against drugs.

[Arizmendi] Was the operation to dismantle the labs over at the time you were supposed to land?

[Botero] Yes, naturally. There was a large contingent of police and soldiers. The area was...[pauses] there was a large number of police and soldiers. In these cases, however, security is never absolute, Dario.

This is not Sweden or Switzerland, it is the Caqueta jungle, an area under the influence of the FARC 14th Front. Although these kinds of security measures are taken, we cannot demand absolute security as a condition for making excursions of this nature. Unfortunately, such conditions do not exist in these kind of jungle areas. In deciding to participate in this kind of operation, one runs a small or intermediate risk, and one must be aware that the risk exists.

[Arizmendi] Given that the risk existed—and you just admitted it—wasn't it rather reckless and daring to have the defense minister, the Army commander, and the police director all in one aircraft?

[Botero] We were spread out among five helicopters. The commander general of the military forces was in one helicopter, the U.S. ambassador and the U.S. assistant secretary of defense in another, the Colombian deputy defense minister in another, and so on. They were spread out among the helicopters. Everyone participating knew that: A) the laboratory had been discovered recently; B) there was a significant Army and Police presence to guarantee security; and, most importantly, C) that despite this, in this kind of territory and in such extreme jungle conditions, there is always a risk.

Everyone who participated knew that there was a small or intermediate risk—whatever you want to call it—but we all agreed to participate, because we cannot stop trying to establish a sovereign presence in all corners of the country because we cannot allow the guerrillas to keep us away from national territory. We cannot ignore the fact that narcos and guerrillas are in certain territories. We cannot allow this, Dario, and we must take these kinds of risks.

I do it with pleasure because it is part of my job and my responsibilities. There was indeed a risk. We were aware of it and faced it with full knowledge. We believe it is absolutely essential not only to establish our presence but also to facilitate access to this operation for the U.S. Government—represented in this case by the ambassador and the assistant secretary of defense—which will allow them to see the harsh, enormous difficulties and the high risks we must face in this struggle against drug trafficking, which make our policemen and soldiers genuine heroes in this struggle Colombia is waging, but that is actually a struggle of the entire humanity.

[Arizmendi] With due respect, Mr. Minister, some people wonder whether it was necessary to send a delegation of virtually the entire Colombian military hierarchy to accompany the U.S. ambassador and the U.S. assistant secretary of defense. The people are saying that it is okay for the minister, the deputy minister, the commander of the military forces, the Army commander, or the Police director to go, but all of them together, Mr. Minister? Was it necessary for all of them to run the same risk?

[Botero] There were two important aspects in this case. First, the National Police force is primarily responsible for the counternarcotics effort. The Colombian Army, Air Force, and Navy, however, have a very important role; that is, the struggle against drug trafficking in Colombia is not limited to the Police. That is not the case in Peru and Bolivia. In this case, the Police force has the main responsibility, but the Army—which participates with the Search Bloc that killed Pablo Escobar and the Search Bloc that operates in Cali—also plays an important role. The Army is involved in daily operations against drug trafficking in the Sierra Nevada in Santa Marta and Uraba. It is involved in many areas of Colombia.

The Colombian Navy also has a very specific presence in this area, surveilling rivers in eastern Colombia and the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, not to mention the Air Force. Thus, all military forces are committed to this struggle. This justifies the presence of the commander general of the military forces, the Army commander—who, I repeat, has a very important responsibility—and the Police director, who is the leader in this struggle against drug trafficking.

There is, thus, full justification for the presence of these three individuals. This operation involved not only contact with the U.S. assistant secretary of defense—who defines a good part of the cooperation parameters between the United States and Colombia—but also allowed them to learn about the problems we are facing and the aid we are requesting to solve them.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

[Arizmendi] Mr. Minister, did these two gigantic laboratories belong to a specific cartel or to the guerrillas? Why are you so sure the attack involved the FARC 14th Front?

[Botero] We have very reliable information about the presence of this group in that part of the country. For some time now we have had reliable information about their connection with drugs, not production but the protection of laboratories. They get paid a fee for the amount of drugs they are protecting. We have known this for a long time, Dario. It is not new information. We have known about the existence of that group and their drug-related activities for some time. That is precisely why we were also visiting Tres Esquinas Airbase, the landing strip being built in that zone. It has a fundamental, strategic importance. Once the landing strip is ready, aircraft will be able to make night landings and jets will be able to land. Then we will be able to recover the area of the country totally, as should be the case.

The guerrilla fronts have intensified their presence there precisely because the Colombian state has not affirmed its presence there. One of the things we specifically set out to do was visit the base under construction. I would say that 35 percent of the landing strip has been completed. The primary objective is to fully recover the area from the narcotraffickers and guerrillas who are conducting totally irregular and illegal activities, which the Colombian state cannot allow.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Minister, if this incident confirms the government's suspicion that there is an alliance between the guerrillas and narcotraffickers, and if the government has said it will not negotiate with narcotraffickers, how will the government separate political criminals from common criminals in possible negotiations with the Guerrilla Coordinating Board?

[Botero] Under clear instructions from the president, that is a facet of the peace policy that I have chosen to leave to be defined at the presidential level. The government must adopt a coherent policy on the matter. The truth is that in the particular case of that part of the country, there is clear evidence demonstrating the connection between narcotraffickers and guerrillas. I repeat, they were performing special tasks. Some produce cocaine, and the others guard the area, as was the case yesterday when the laboratory was seized. Surely the crew or group of guerrillas responsible for protecting the site staged an attack, which fortunately was thwarted, to defend that laboratory or laboratories.

[Arizmendi] In that sense, Mr. Minister, I insist that the laboratories did not belong to the guerrillas but that the guerrillas were protecting them. To whom did the laboratories belong? To which cartel?

[Botero] We don't know yet, Dario. We are waiting. Following this incident yesterday afternoon, the narcotics police returned to the site. They were able to conduct a more careful examination of the material discovered there, such as chemicals, cocaine, refined cocaine, and some documents. They were then able to make a more careful investigation of the area and dismantle the laboratory. Naturally, this information will give us a lot of intelligence on who the real owners are. I repeat: It is a very large laboratory that will allow us to establish more precisely how it operated within the framework of the narcotrafficking operation that unfortunately exists in our country.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Minister, in view of what happened yesterday, experience has shown us that such trips cannot be undertaken with so many ranking officials all in the same, quote, tour, unquote, is that correct?

[Botero] No, Dario, that is not correct. I do not agree with that idea for the following reasons: When one decides not to be present in this way, or when ranking state officials refuse to assume their responsibility to be present and to be vigilant, to participate on a continuing basis in these types of operations, out of fear or because of the risks involved, I think the consequences will be very serious. There are risks involved in this type of operation. The people involved know this and take the risks. In my case, I am determined to take the risks because it is important to the post which I hold. I consider the presence of ranking military leaders in such operations to be essential so they can learn firsthand about the difficulties and problems we encounter. The troops and police participating must be supported. We cannot remain comfortably behind our desks in Santa Fe de Bogota while we send these troops to risk their lives. That would be a very comfortable position, but is unacceptable from my viewpoint. We must all be present. If risks are involved, then we must be prepared to face them, because that is part of our job.

[Reporter] Mr. Minister, President Samper has said that the government is fighting narcotrafficking out of its own conviction, not because anyone is forcing it to do so. You told us you took the officials out so they could see how we are conducting a genuine, all-out struggle against drugs. Does the government feel pressured by the United States to demonstrate results?

[Botero] No, not in any way. We are waging this struggle out of our own conviction, as the president has clearly said. There was a great interest, however, in taking the U.S. officials for a firsthand look at the problems we face so the cooperation we get from them will be greater, more ambitious, and with greater projections. We share many effective cooperation programs with them, which we value and appreciate. They are a great stimulus. We also have the important recognition of the United States that this is an international problem, of international scope, but which is being waged essentially in Colombia and that Colombians need, merit, and deserve the absolute support of the United States, the European countries, and the entire international community in order to have the necessary tools to wage this struggle. In that sense, the visit by the officials was very important

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

because the U.S. assistant secretary who was accompanying us is the most influential person in the Pentagon regarding this subject. He makes the decisions about a large portion of the investment in military assistance to Colombia. He defines a large part of the parameters of military cooperation and the aid we receive from the U.S. Government. I wanted him to learn the scope of the problem personally, not only to see that aspect, which I have taken many opportunities to touch upon in Washington, but also the link between the guerrillas and narcotrafficking in that part of the country. That link, unfortunately, is very difficult to confront. It requires us to know how to formulate our strategy.

[Arizmendi] Along that line, Mr. Minister, is the Colombian Government going to officially request military and economic assistance from the U.S. Government to fight the narcoguerrillas?

[Botero] No, Dario. Right now we have cooperation programs under way. The government will ask that those programs be maintained and that they be increased to the extent that the United States is capable, thus permitting us to have more resources and support. That is what we are going to request, not with a specific goal, but with the general objective that it will give us more and better tools to fight narcotraffickers.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Minister, did you know beforehand where these laboratories were located?

[Botero] Yes, of course. We found the laboratories Wednesday. We received a report awhile ago, but it took some time to plan this operation so it would be successful. It was finally conducted on Wednesday afternoon, when the Drug Police arrived on the scene and discovered the laboratory.

[Arizmendi] Instead of taking such risks, why wasn't the place just bombed?

[Botero] That is not standard procedure. Bombing is too easy, but....

[Arizmendi, interrupting] Are you looking for the most difficult way?

[Botero] No, we must pursue the most effective procedure, which is an operation during which we can seize the place, determine the presence of materials, and analyze the relationship of that laboratory to the entire drug trafficking operation. All that evidence, all that information is destroyed if the laboratory is bombed.

Normally we seize the site to analyze everything found there. Once that is done, the laboratory is set on fire and destroyed. That is the procedure established by the internal regulations of the Drug Police, and it is what must be done. Normally, I don't know if there are special [words indistinct] that merit different treatment.

[Arizmendi] Mr. Minister, would you say it is possible that information was leaked on the status and importance of the visitors going to the area?

[Botero] Dario, we have ruled out that possibility. I do not think the information was leaked. We believe the attack was prompted [words indistinct] personalities. I think the attack was targeted against the Drug Police helicopters. That is the basic characteristic of the operation that we [words indistinct], but I don't think the attack was in any way prompted by the precise knowledge of the people who were in the helicopters.

[Arizmendi] Did all the police officers who participated in locating and destroying the laboratories leave the area?

[Botero] Luckily, yes, Dario. That was our main concern. We wanted to guarantee that the operation concluded successfully without casualties on our side. Luckily, and despite the risks involved, the Drug Police, led by Colonel Gallego, completed the operation successfully, professionally, and responsibly. They not only met the objective of seizing the laboratory and obtaining indispensable intelligence information to learn its function, but also of destroying the facilities and escaping safely. There were no casualties. This is really pleasing to us and reflects the growing professionalism of Colombian Drug Police.

[Arizmendi] Are clashes taking place right now following the discovery of this group of the FARC 14th Front? Were troops sent to the theater of operations, as they say in military lingo?

[Botero] No, as of this time no contact has been made with the rebels, as they say in military lingo. Right now there is [words indistinct] takeover of the laboratory and its destruction. The Drug Police operations in this area will continue in conjunction with the Army and the antiguerrilla struggle. Future operations are now being planned in this area of the country. As I said before, however, our top priority is to complete the Tres Esquinas Air Base, which will be the fundamental instrument for organizing the Army and government presence in that area bordering [words indistinct].

[Arizmendi] Truthfully, what were you feeling when you realized a shoot-out was going on?

[Botero] Dario, the truth is that I did not feel any fear because it all happened too quickly. I told the Army commander that we were being fired at. He was wearing a hearing protection device and did not hear what I said. He proceeded to remove the device and later confirmed we were being shot at. At that time, I informed the helicopter gunship on my left to quickly inform the other helicopters of what was happening and to advise them to ascend and fly away from the scene. I told the helicopter we must abort the operation and return to Tres Esquinas, which is exactly what we did.

[Arizmendi] In other words, you did not land near the laboratories?

[Botero] No, we were descending when the attack occurred. We flew back up and made sure all helicopters

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

managed to escape undamaged from the area. When we were flying at a higher altitude, all helicopters got together and flew in the direction of Tres Esquinas, where we arrived approximately 25 minutes later. One of the helicopters had been hit, and at that time we realized the risk was very great. As you know, a helicopter's tail rotor is the most sensitive part, much more so than the cabin, the cockpit, or the rotor head. The tail rotor defines the center of gravity. If it is damaged, the helicopter falls like a rock. So we realized the risks involving the third helicopter were very great because the shots were fired at the tail rotor.

Guerrillas make a practice of firing at the tail rotor. In this case, the shots hit an area only centimeters from a vital part of the aircraft, which, had it been hit, would have had very dramatic consequences.

[Arizmendi] What is the extent of the damage to the third helicopter?

[Botero] Unfortunately, the damage is great, because the tail rotor is absolutely fundamental to a helicopter. There is no such thing as a minor repair to the tail rotor. Whenever something like that happens, the tail rotors are changed to prevent any kind of risk, and that entails a very high cost, sometimes as much as 70 million or 80 million pesos. Unfortunately, we have to make this investment because a tail rotor that is not fully functioning constitutes a very high risk that may not just affect the helicopter but also, as is natural, the lives of the passengers (?aboard).

[Arizmendi] What did U.S. Ambassador Frechette and the assistant secretary of defense tell you?

[Botero] The assistant secretary of defense told me he wanted to become familiar with the drug problem in Colombia, but not that familiar. [laughter]

[Arizmendi] Was he really scared?

[Botero] He was .... [pauses] This was even more dramatic because there was an exchange of fire. I think that made the incident more dramatic, even more so in their case than in any other case. They really got to see the full scope of the problem. I think—at least based on the talks I had with them last night—the ambassador and [name indistinct] certainly got a big impression. The commitment to the effort we are making is greater than ever. The admiration for the work the Drug Police are doing is greater than ever because their work is extremely dangerous. I also think the trip served to obtain the commitment to increase cooperation efforts. From that viewpoint, and without denying aspects that are a little delicate, [words indistinct] will be highly beneficial for the country...

[Unidentified reporter, interrupting] Does this fulfill...

[Botero, interrupting] Cooperation will be greater.

[Reporter] Was the objective to impress them and make them realize [words indistinct] met?

[Botero] I think so. I think the objective of getting them to see the problem up close, as we say, (?was fulfilled), so they can understand that this is a very difficult problem and that we are making an enormous effort, but we will not succeed without the decisive support of the international community and the U.S. Government, in particular.

[Arizmendi] In practical terms, how many millions of dollars are involved in the struggle against drugs.

[Botero] I hope many millions, because we need them. We are working under very precarious conditions. We need a lot of help to be able to make it [words indistinct]

President Downplays Attack

PA2409022594 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2338 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 23 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Colombian President Ernesto Samper today downplayed the guerrilla attack on the helicopters in which Brian Sheridan, the U.S. assistant secretary of defense, and high-ranking Colombian military officers were traveling.

"For me it is not different from any other violent incident, and it will allow us to show the international community that Colombia is firmly committed to the struggle against drug trafficking and subversion," the president said in a news conference.

The helicopters, in which a delegation of officials and military officers of the United States and Cuba [as received] were traveling, were attacked by guerrillas yesterday while en route to a recently discovered cocaine laboratory in the southern part of the country.

The delegation included Sheridan, U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Myles Frechette, Colombian Defense Minister Fernando Botero, Police Chief General Octavio Vargas, and Army Chief General Hernan Guzman.

"Those who think we tolerate a type of coexistence with any kind of violence are wrong," said Samper, after noting that "now they are starting to see and understand these problems firsthand."

Relations between Colombia and the United States have been adversely affected in the last few months based on differences in the sentencing of drug traffickers, as well as on charges of alleged bribery by the mafia to members of Samper's election campaign. Samper was sworn in 7 August 1994.

The incident, which caused considerable damage to the helicopter that was carrying journalists, unleashed a controversy regarding the lack of foresight by the Colombian authorities who invited the Americans to visit the laboratories.

"We are aware that the struggle against the cartels and the guerrillas involve risks, but I refuse to fight it sitting

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

behind a desk," the defense minister said when questioned why he went to that jungle region inhabited by members of the mafia and guerrillas.

Sending Officials Into Jungle Questioned

PA2409024594

[Editorial Report] Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 24 September, as part of its regularly scheduled "24 Hours Newscast," broadcasts a 13-minute series of six reports related to the 22 September guerrilla attack on a fleet of government helicopters in a jungle region of Caqueta Department. Among the military helicopters that came under fire from suspected guerrillas belonging to the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia was one carrying U.S. Ambassador Myles Frechette; Brian Sheridan, assistant U.S. secretary of defense; and Colombian Defense Minister Fernando Botero.

The series of reports begins with a two-minute report on remarks Botero made earlier in the day in a live telephone interview with the Caracol radio network. In the interview, Botero noted that the helicopter flight into the jungle was a calculated risk.

This is followed by a three-minute announcer-read report that notes although Botero had said the guerrillas were targeting the helicopters themselves and not the passengers—passengers whose identities the guerrillas could not have known—Police Director General Vargas Silva yesterday gave advance details of the operation to seven radio stations. The announcer goes on to say all of these radio stations have signals strong enough to have been monitored by guerrillas at the site of the attack.

This report is followed by a one-minute report on an interview with General Ramon Emilio Gil Bermudez, commander of the Colombian Armed Forces, who says the guerrillas opened fire after they heard helicopters flying overhead. He adds: "The guerrillas knew the helicopters were flying overhead because of the noise of the aircraft. Their intelligence network is so good that they determined the presence of the helicopters by the noise they produced. The guerrillas were not aware of the presence of the VIP's on board."

This report is followed by a one-minute report on an interview with Colonel Leonardo Gallego, director of the Colombian Narcotics Police. According to the announcer, Inravision found his remarks "somewhat contradictory" to the defense minister's statements to Caracol radio. After broadcasting a recording of Gallego saying, "there were five helicopters," the announcer notes that Botero said there were six. Following another recording of Gallego saying, "all of the helicopters returned gunfire, because all are fitted with machine guns and have gunners on board," the announcer notes that Botero told Caracol only a helicopter gunship returned fire. Last, following a recording of Gallego saying, "the helicopters were flying at more than 2,000 feet, the accepted safe altitude during such operations," the announcer points out that the defense minister said the helicopters had been flying at an altitude of 256 feet.

The newscast goes on to broadcast a two-minute report summarizing "Operation Hurricane" in which the helicopters were participating. Again, a recording from Botero's Caracol interview is broadcast, with Botero noting that, despite steps taken, risks are involved whenever military forces enter guerrilla-infested areas of the Caqueta jungles. The report also notes the defense minister said that, although guerrillas control the Caqueta region, the Colombian Government continues to exercise sovereignty throughout the nation's territory.

The series of reports ends with a two-minute report, which is read by announcer Marta Rojas, that says: "The official report on Operation Hurricane, in which 9.5 metric tons of materials for processing cocaine were seized, was released today. So far, however, no one has seen any video of the seizure and destruction of the cocaine-processing labs. According to the police, Operation Hurricane took place on Wednesday and Thursday, and the operation included the flight of the U.S. delegation and top military officials. This was the first mistake.

"According to military strategists, the helicopters flew at an altitude of less than 2,000 feet, and this made it possible for the guerrillas to attack them from the ground. Operation Hurricane was conducted in an area of imminent risk. The day before, the military had confirmed the presence of four guerrilla fronts in the area. Nevertheless, the visit by the VIP's was conducted anyway. The operation lacked tactical air support. This precluded additional protection for the visitors.

"It was possible to learn the results of Operation Hurricane only from a written report because, although videotapes are in the hands of Col. Gallego, they were withheld from this newscast. Moreover, the commission never saw the confiscated drugs, although this was intended to prove Operation Hurricane was a success."

Guerrillas Suspected in Kidnapping of U.S. Citizen

PA2409002794 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2242 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 23 Sep (DPA)—U.S. journalist Thomas Hargrove, communications director of the International Tropical Agriculture Center (CIAT), was kidnapped today in southern Colombia by suspected communist guerrillas, authorities have reported.

Hargrove was kidnapped near Puerto Tejada, Cauca Department, where members of the Marxist-Leninist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] set up a "checkpoint" and robbed at least five vehicles. For several months, Hargrove has been working as CIAT head of communications. The organization, headquartered in Cali, conducts agricultural research.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

He was kidnapped one day after FARC members opened fire on a helicopter in the jungles of Caqueta Department. The aircraft was carrying Brian Sheridan, assistant U.S. secretary of defense; U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Myles Frechette; and Colombian Defense Minister Fernando Botero, all of whom were unhurt.

Authorities Search for Scientist

PA2509192094 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1759 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 25 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Authorities have been searching for U.S. scientist Thomas Hargrove, who reportedly was kidnapped by an alleged rebel group on a highway in the southeast Colombia. The U.S. scientist, a farming expert, was driving his car when 15 men intercepted him near the city of Cali, the private radio station Caracol reported.

According to reports by residents, the kidnappers forced the foreigner out of his car and took him toward the mountains. Several fronts of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) were operating in the area where the incident took place this week, approximately 400 km from Santa Fe de Bogota. The source indicated that there has been no word yet on the whereabouts of the U.S. scientist or the conditions for his release. The U.S. Embassy in Santa Fe de Bogota neither confirmed nor denied the report of the kidnapping of the scientist who was doing research in the region.

The authorities have attributed the 906 kidnappings reported in the past nine months to rebel groups or common crime. Of those kidnapped, 606 have regained their freedom, and 300 remain in captivity.

New Guerrilla Group Releases Legislator

PA2409003694 Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 21 Sep 94 p 17A

[Text] The emergence of a new guerrilla group in Antioquia, identified as the National Liberation People's Front (FPLN), was discovered yesterday following the release of Juan Ignacio Castrillon, member of the House of Representatives, and Alberto Builes Ortega, Antioquia assembly candidate.

The FPLN kidnapped Conservative leaders Castrillon and Builes in Yolombo, 118 km northeast of Medellin, last Saturday.

Castrillon and Builes were released at 1500 on Monday with a message from the new guerrilla group. The message will be delivered to President Ernesto Samper Pizano today.

Meanwhile, Mayor Jairo Enrique Arango Zuleta, who was kidnapped in El Bagre (Antioquia), yesterday sent a message to his wife, Silveria de Arango, telling her that he is in the hands of the ELN [Army of National Liberation]. Mayor Arango was kidnapped on the road to Guamuco on 3 September.

Although details on the content of the FPLN message were not disclosed, it was learned that the rebels have been fighting for a year and that the new group emerged in response to the declaration of war issued by the previous government.

According to Castrillon, the new group operates in northeastern Antioquia and is a group of dissidents from the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia], the ELN, and the Francisco Caraballo group.

Colonel Guillermo Francisco Ramirez Serrano, commander of the Medellin Metropolitan Police, said that they had no record of the new group. "Although, logistically, this is not a strong group, we must give it our attention and should be aware that it may be an offshoot of the ELN or another subversive group," Ramirez stated.

Henry Navarro Rincon, director of the Administrative Department of Security (DAS), said that this was the first news the DAS had on this organization. "We are examining the pamphlet they sent," Navarro added.

The emergence of the new group, made up of dissidents from other factions, is another crucial sign of the internal divisions being experienced by the traditional groups, particularly the ELN. The traditional groups are divided over such issues as war and peace.

In the ELN, for instance, the ideology of Father Manuel Perez, who is described as a pacifist, and that of Domingo Lain, who is determined to continue to fight the government, are becoming increasingly more well known.

Maria Teresa Uribe, a researcher at the Institute of Political Studies at the University of Antioquia, believes that the current divisions within the ELN are normal, considering that any peace process involves differences among groups members on the ground rules, the goals, and the methods of negotiations.

President Backs Mexican President's WTO Candidacy

PA2609000594 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2315 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota, 23 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Colombian President Ernesto Samper will uphold his predecessor Cesar Gaviria's decision to support the candidacy of Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari to head the World Trade Organization (WTO), official sources reported today.

Colombia Foreign Ministry spokesmen have reported that Samper will support Salinas de Gotari's candidacy to the general directorship of the WTO, the organization that will replace the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in 1995.

Last July, during the Caribbean summit of heads of state and governments, Gaviria proposed that they back the

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Mexican president, who will conclude his presidential term next December, as candidate to head the next international trade regulating organization.

On that occasion, the 25 summit participants emphasized in a communique the importance of Mexico, a member of the Association of Caribbean States, nominating its president to the position.

They recognized the need to coordinate efforts to promote a sole candidate to ensure that the region's interests are duly represented.

"Colombia considers that Salinas de Gorari has the necessary expertise and attributes to preside over it to the benefit of our nations," said Gaviria, who is now the OAS secretary general.

According to local analysts, with the withdrawal of former Brazilian Finance Minister Rubens Ricupero's candidacy, the Mexican president has emerged as the possible Latin American candidate for the WTO general director position.

Ecuador

Vice President Rejects Trade Restrictions

PA2609032294 Paris AFP in Spanish 2027 GMT 22 Sep 94

[Text] Quito, Sep 22 (AFP)—Ecuadoran Vice President Alberto Dahik strongly rejected on Thursday the restrictions imposed by the United States and the EU on traditional Ecuadoran exports, which generate a significant amount of foreign exchange for the country.

"The developed countries talk about free trade but adopt protectionist practices against products that are essential to developing countries," he asserted.

"They do not practice what they preach," Dahik emphasized when he referred to the 49 percent custom tariff the U.S. Commerce Department recently decided to apply to Ecuadoran, as well as Colombian, flowers because it believed they were being sold in the U.S. market at prices lower than their production cost.

Likewise, he condemned the obstacles imposed by the EU on banana imports from Latin American nations in order to promote the production and export of the fruit by their former ACP (Asia, Caribbean, and Pacific) colonies.

The vice president stated that the U.S. and EU measures are unfair and that is why Ecuador is fighting to get them revised immediately.

Paraguay

Wasmosy Reorganizes Military Hierarchy

PA2409214394 Paris AFP in Spanish 1951 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Asuncion, 24 Sep (AFP)—Today, President Juan Carlos Wasmosy unexpectedly reshuffled the military's top command, by retiring 14 generals, including several branch chiefs, it was officially announced.

The changes Wasmosy ordered strengthened the power of Army Commander General Lino Oviedo, military sources queried by AFP stated.

Wasmosy discharged General Pedro Concepcion Ocampos, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, and replaced him with General Roosevelt Benitez, a personal friend of Gen. Ovido.

General Cesar Kramer is replacing Air Force Commander General Jose Cespedes Zarza, and Rear Admiral Guillermo Lopez Moreira is replacing Navy Commander Vice Admiral Flabio Abadie.

The unexpected wave of changes reached General Iran Centurion, commander of the 2d Army Corps, who will be replaced by General Magno Candia, who served as the commander of the 3d Infantry Division.

In addition, General Juan Simon Paredes, chief of the 4th Infantry Division, was appointed commander of the 3d Army Corps, replacing General Evelio Benitez.

Further changes were ordered within the general staffs of the 2d and 3d Army Corps, in the infantry and cavalry divisions.

The announcement of the almost total reorganization of the military hierarchy came hours after a luxurious party on Friday to celebrate Gen. Oviedo's birthday, which was attended by 3,000 guests, almost all of whom were military people.

Wasmosy had said: "I will not allow any undue attempts to discredit and debase the Armed Forces," and he characterized congressmen who are opposed to a substantial pay raise for the military as "pseudopoliticians."

Explains Changes

PA2409221894 Paris AFP in Spanish 2117 GMT 24 Sep 94

[Text] Santa Cruz, Bolivia, 24 Sep (AFP)—Paraguayan President Juan Carlos Wasmosy today described as "normal" the changes to his country's military hierarchy that he unexpectedly decreed before traveling to this city to meet with his colleagues from Bolivia and Peru.

"The Armed Forces members know perfectly well the way I think about this situation," Wasmosy said during a news conference in which he denied that Army Chief General Lino Oviedo influenced his decision to retire 14 generals.

"The leadership of the Armed Forces knows how to respect the seniority and capabilities of each officer and knows how to give everyone an opportunity to reach the highest level of their military career," Wasmosy added.

After stating that each military institution has its own duties in his country, the president announced that he

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

will present to the Promotions Tribunal "the candidates that may reach the highest possible ranks within the military hierarchy."

When asked whether these changes could create a crisis, Wasmosy said: "I expect the same loyalty, the same spirit of cooperation, respect, and support to the democratic government and the process to which we are all committed."

Peru

Government Expresses Satisfaction, 'Regret' Over Haiti

PY2409033394 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2107 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Lima, 23 Sep (EFE)—Peru today expressed its satisfaction over the fact that "legitimate authorities and democracy will soon be reinstated" in Haiti, but regretted that this was achieved through foreign intervention.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Efrain Goldenberg stated that Peru had expressed its opposition to military intervention in Haiti when the issue was voted on at the United Nations and in other fora.

The Peruvian Government had hoped that instead of U.S. forces, UN forces would intervene in Haiti. Goldenberg stated that the entrance of U.S. troops into Haiti "is not an ideal situation."

He said: "We are pleased, however, that bloodshed has been avoided, and that the Haitian people have been spared greater hardships."

Goldenberg added: "We are also pleased that legitimate authorities and democracy will soon be reinstated in Haiti."

Finally, Goldenberg reiterated Peru's willingness to "cooperate in all nonmilitary multilateral actions, whenever they are requested by the legitimate Haitian authorities."

Fujimori Orders Military To 'Annihilate' Shining Path

PA2509015894 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2328 GMT 24 Sep 94

[By Jose Luis Castillejos]

[Excerpt] Lima, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori today ordered the armed forces to "annihilate" the Shining Path armed group and fire until they use up the very last cartridge against the rebels who refuse to surrender.

Presiding over a ceremony to mark "Armed Forces Day," the president declared a "war of national liberation" on Shining Path, which undermined institutions in the past by infiltrating the national parliament, state organizations, and the universities.

He summarized the damage inflicted to Shining Path before officers, troops, widows, orphans, disabled war veterans, and diplomats. Fujimori said that members of this group are defeated, but we must finish them off.

The president voiced his satisfaction wilh the work accomplished by the armed forces, which have defended every miLlimeter of Peruvian territory. "We will never again coexist with terrorism," he added.

Fujimori remembered the thousands of Peruvians who have fallen and criticized those who attack and try to denigrate the Peruvian Armed Forces and National Police, which are made up of more than 100,000 members.

He thanked the soldiers, policemen, and members of the Peasant Defense Patrols for defending the country from terrorism. "Today, we are enjoying peace, which has not come as easily as the advent of spring, but we have had to pay a high price in blood, sweat, and tears," he said.

Fujimori underscored that there is now an atmosphere of peace and investment incentives, and he criticized those—whom he did not identify—that claim that the attack on terrorism could have been better.

"There are refined critics who think that it was easy to eliminate violence, and thus, I say to those illustrious spectators today that we have achieved a historic victory against terror," the president added.

There are refined politicians and critics who think they know the reality of violence in Peru, who claim that we waged a dirty war, and who present themselves as the country's redeemers now that presidential elections are near," Fujimori said.

He deplored the fact that certain segments of the Peruvian population have fled the country while the "hot potato" was burning. Many illustrious spectators of the Peruvian drama who lived abroad are now demanding explanations, Fujimori said in open reference to former UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

He added that Peruvians have not yet forgotten how Shining Path advanced as a social cancer and how it infiltrated the universities, the judicial branch, the parliament, and the government.

"We no longer want to be inoculated with hatred or want children to die because of war, and this is why we declared an all-out war on Shining Path today," Fujimori added.

The chief of state publicly gave express orders to the armed forces to wipe out all Shining Path members who refuse to accept the Surrender Law, which expires in November, by all means and with full force.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

"With the disappearance of Shining Path, we will give peace to the 30,000 dead caused by a terrorism that was nourished by the demagoguery and inaction of governments of the past decade (Fernando Belaunde Terry, 1980-1985 and Alan Garcia, 1985-1990), who gave in to terrorist actions," Fujimori said.

The president added that the armed forces have the task of wiping out terrorism, and thus, he asked that "stones not be cast" at the institution, which has devoted itself to this struggle and that is willing to help in the war against poverty. [passage omitted]

Car Bomb in Lima Injures Six, Causes Damage

PY2309170694 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1615 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Text] Lima, 23 Sep (EFE)—The explosion of a car bomb today, with the vehicle having been driven into the wall of a candy factory in one of the main industrial zones in Lima, resulted in six people being injured and significant material damage being sustained.

The explosion caused a huge hole in one of the walls of the "D'Onofrio" factory and destroyed the doors and windows of neighboring buildings.

In the meantime, the Peruvian military high command today disclosed that at least 42 members of the Red Path [Sendero Rojo] terrorist group died and another 14 were arrested during several clashes with security forces in the Peruvian jungle.

The armed clashes took place between 15 and 20 September, within the framework of an offensive launched by the Army with the support of civilian forces against the remaining terrorist columns operating in the Huallaga valley (northern Peru), according to the military command.

The main clash took place on Sunday, 18 September, at a site called Paraiso, where at least 20 terrorists died. Here the security forces seized 14 automatic rifles, one RPG grenade launcher, 15 grenades, 97 rounds of rifle ammunition, communications equipment, and propaganda, according to the source.

The information on the offensive was disclosed during a visit paid to Huallaga by the General Nicolas Hermoza Rios, commander in chief of the Armed Forces joint command and Army commander.

During the visit, the arrested terrorists, among them a 14-year-old, were presented to the media.

Hermoza asserted that the remaining Huallaga terrorists are gathered in the so-called "Batallon Independiente T-4" [Independent Battalion T-4], which has some 150 men divided into five companies, one of which was headquartered in Paraiso.

On Wednesday, 21 September, the terrorists murdered a popular leader in Lima. During the arrest of other terrorists, the police found documents concerning planned terrorist attacks.

Venezuela

Country Asks GATT To Review Fuel Dispute With U.S.

PA2409124694 Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 23 Sep 94 p 2-1

[Unattributed report]

[Text] According to reports provided by the Foreign Trade Institute [ICE], Venezuela filed a formal request yesterday that a special group be established to review the topic of reformulated gasoline during the 4 October session of the GATT Council of Representatives in Geneva.

The request was sent with an explanatory note in which Venezuelan authorities detail the situation with the United States regarding the fuel in question.

In view of the decision made by the U.S. Congress not to grant funds to the Environmental Protection Agency "to sign, enact, implement, or enforce" the modification proposed by the aforementioned agency, and having exhausted all bilateral efforts to resolve the situation satisfactorily, Venezuela requests the creation of a special group.

The ICE said the purpose of the special group is to note the incompatibility of the regulation on gasolines in accordance with the provisions of GATT.

According to the procedures for solving differences within the GATT, after requesting the creation of a special group, which must be decided upon in the next meeting of the Council of Representatives within 30 days, the special group must be created and a schedule of meetings prepared within a week.

The presentation of the report to the parties involved by the special group shall not, as a general rule, exceed six months, and in no case shall the period between the establishment of the special group and the presentation of the report exceed nine months.

Subsequently, the report provided by the special group will be reviewed before being adopted by the Council of Representatives 30 days after being distributed to the parties involved.

GATT Protests U.S. Gasoline Import Ban

PA2409041694 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 23 Sep 94

[Report by Zayra Pereira from the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] Energy and Mines Minister Erwin Arrieta today stressed that the price of Venezuelan crude oil will remain at $13 a barrel until the end of the year, which represents a significant increase. It had been initially forecast that the price of Venezuelan crude would fall to $12.50 a barrel.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

Today, crude prices were at $13.07 a barrel, much higher than the $12.40 a barrel recorded last week, and this higher price is beneficial to Venezuela.

Meanwhile, with respect to reformulated gasoline, which has been subject to discriminatory practices in the United States, Minister Arrieta noted that Foreign Trade Minister Alberto Poletto will be traveling to GATT on 4 October to protest the U.S. decision.

The minister added that losing the U.S. market would not pose a great problem, because it will be quite easy for Venezuela to sell the gasoline elsewhere.

[Begin Arrieta recording] In the end, the most unfortunate thing about this whole episode is the breakdown of relations with a nation to which we have always provided a steady supply of gasoline, even during times of conflict. There was no justification for such a decision. The only reason for this discrimination is pressure originating from rival U.S. companies. [end recording]

Later, Minister Arrieta announced that Venezuela will host the World Energy Congress that will include approximately 30 countries.

Government Grants Asylum to 15 Cuban Rafters

PA2609000494 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Sep 94

[From the "Union Radio News" Newscast]

[Text] The Venezuelan Government will grant asylum to the 15 Cuban rafters that a vessel of Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc. and another of the Venezuelan Navy rescued in the high seas this week.

These Cubans, who are currently in Guanta, State of Anzoategui, have no relatives in the country, but the government will make an exception, because they are already on Venezuelan territory.

Airport Cordoned Off After Shoot-Out, Kidnapping

PA2509041594 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0343 GMT 25 Sep 94

[Text] Caracas, 24 Sep (NOTIMEX)—Three soldiers kidnapped a sergeant on 24 September at La Carlota Airport in the Venezuelan capital as they were fleeing to avoid heeding an order, the Central Information Office [OCI] of the Presidency has confirmed.

The three men in uniform, who were apparently caught in possession of drugs, refused to heed a disciplinary measure, and their escape provoked a shoot-out, OCI Director Guillermo Alvarez said.

La Carlota, site of the 1992 coup attempts, was cordoned off on the evening of 24 September, and members of combined forces are searching for the kidnappers and their hostage in various parts of Caracas.

Defense Minister General Rafael Montero Revette and high-ranking officers of the Air Force are managing the situation and "have not yet adopted special measures," Alvarez told local television.

He said that no injury was reported during the incident and confirmed that [words indistinct] belong to the Security Battalion at the air terminal located in eastern Caracas.

The Tamanaco Shopping Center, the largest in the capital and located a few meters from La Carlota, was occupied by military troops searching for the kidnappers, who "are unarmed," Alvarez added.

Fogade Vice President Resigns

PA2409042594 Caracas Union Radio Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Sep 94

[From the "Union Radio News" newscast]

[Text] Beatriz Canela, vice president of the Deposit Guarantee and Banking Protection Fund [Fogade], has resigned for personal reasons after serving in that capacity for the past six months. Her aides followed suit.

As a result, Fogade managers decided to restructure this organization to adjust it to current demands and the additional responsibilities it has acquired.

Special Judge Requested for Money Laundering Case

94SM0463B Caracas EL UNIVERSAL (Section 1) in Spanish 21 Jul 94 p 19

[Article by Alberto Vargas]

[Text] The investigation begun by Judge Mildred Camero of the Second Criminal Court into alleged money laundering (from drug trafficking) through the real estate market, has led, "surprisingly," for this proceeding was begun less than a week ago, to a request for a special judge by representatives of the Public Ministry, Alfonso Marquez Saavedra (prosecutor no 34) and Candida Gavidia (prosecutor no 69) on the basis of *notitia criminis.*

Judge Camero recently issued 32 arrest warrants in a case involving money laundering in Venezuela; still, with the subterfuges that Venezuelan justice seems to have, the case was reviewed by a superior criminal court in Tachira State, which revoked the arrest warrants.

The Office of the Prosecutor announced an appeal of this decision and last Friday the prosecutor before the Supreme Court of Justice, Freddy Diaz Chacon, in a 114-page brief which he filed in the Criminal Chamber, filed the appeal.

This new case does not differ much from the preceding, since it also involves an unlawful action covered by the Drug Law, so perhaps this indicates the supposed interest of removing the case from this judge, who

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

directed the Antinarcotics Division of the National Guard, in order to verify the investigation process.

Still, it does seem as if this might be a return to the system used to remove a specific case from a judge through the mechanism contained in Article 25-A of the Criminal Procedures Code, which states: "Superior courts with jurisdiction in criminal matters may designate a special investigating judge when the case involves crimes whose extraordinary circumstances or whose circumstances of place or time of execution, or the persons allegedly involved in them either as offenders or as victims, warrant this measure for a more accurate investigation or for the more certain verification of the facts."

The special judge was requested in Superior Criminal Court XIV, but it will be the assembly of superior criminal judges who, in the final instance, will decide this by voting on the matter.

On this controversial matter of the special judge, Judge Luis Lecuna of Superior Criminal Court XIX last April had to resolve a similar request, and at that time he expressed the need to revise Article 25-A of the Criminal Procedures Code, which "violates the constitutional principle stated in Article 69 of the National Constitution, according to which a judge who is ordered not to continue trying a case has no right at all to intervene or to take any action, so the appointment of a special judge becomes a sort of subjective incapacity substantiated by a different means than the one presented in Chapter IV of the preliminary title of the Criminal Procedures Code (challenge and inhibition), in which, in some cases, judges who have demonstrated swiftness, ability, and honesty may be damaged, in terms of public opinion, in their reputation as trial judges."

On this practice of requesting special judges in cases which in some way could conclude with arrest warrants, precisely because what Lecuna said is operating ("judges who have demonstrated swiftness, ability, and honesty"), Lecuna stated:

"I have recently observed with concern that people are making use of this means for the sole purpose of removing (sic) a case from a particular court, and it is precisely this intention which should not be allowed by superior court judges, except in those cases in which the conditions really exist, in their totality, as stated in Article 25-A of the Criminal Procedures Code and in the Regulation on Appointments of Special Judges, dated 5 October 1970, published in the GAZETA OFICIAL no 234.012."

Despite Lecuna's personal view, we will have to wait for a decision to be made by the judges assembly.

Governors Association Names New Leaders

94SM0463A Caracas EL UNIVERSAL (Section 2) in Spanish 25 Jul 94 p 18

[Text] During the governors meeting held in Barquisimeto the new board of directors of the AGV [Venezuelan Governors Association], who will chart the organization's future course, was sworn in. The president of the board will be Governor Francisco Ron Sandoval of Tachira State.

The first vice president is the governor of Miranda, Arnaldo Arocha; the second vice president is Carlos Tablante, governor of Aragua; the first member of the board is engineer Jose Mariano Navarro, governor of Lara; the governor of Barinas, Gehard Cartay, was chosen as second board member; the third member is the governor of Monagas, Guillermo Cali; and Edgar Sayago of Amazonas was selected as the fourth member.

The new AGV directors were sworn in by Dr. Henrique Salas Romer, the governor of Carabobo and the AGV's outgoing president, who expressed his satisfaction with the work accomplished, saying: "An association of this nature does not guarantee that we will win all the battles with the central administration, but it does guarantee that not all the battles will be lost, and that is what has been done."

The AGV's new board of directors must continue to fight for the progress and well-being of the regions, said Salas Romer.

After the swearing-in ceremony, the 19 regional executives meeting in Lara State presented a parchment expressing their appreciation to Governor Salas Romer, of whom Governor Francisco Ron Sandoval said, "He is a fundamental bastion in the strengthening process which the Governors Association has begun and in the decentralization which the federal agencies need."

"His capability, dedication, and spirit have provided a solid basis for promoting state reform, the role of the regions, and the participation of civil society, factors which are essential for the progress of our states. Now, when Salas Romer is leaving the presidency of the AGV we must express to him our appreciation, gratitude, and friendship." With this homage the governor paid tribute to the persistent work done by the governor of Carabobo State.

Governor Francisco Ron Sandoval, in taking his oath as the leader of the AGV, said that the Venezuelan governors have set a great example for the Venezuelan people by sitting down at a round table, not thinking of secondary interests, but of the nation as a whole.

Chavez: 'Civic Protest,' Constituent Assembly Key

94SM0462A Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 31 Jul 94 p 11A

[Interview with former Lieutenant Colonel Hugo Chavez in Santa Fe de Bogota; date not given]

[Text] To persuade is the attempt to convince another by means of dialogue. To dissuade is when a threat is implicit in that attempt. That difference, which is taught in the school of political science of Simon Bolivar University, was assimilated by one of its former students, Hugo German Chavez Frias, the Venezuelan Army officer who announced on his country's television on 4 February 1992 that the coup against the government of Carlos Andres Perez had failed for now.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

This plainsman, who recites the life of the Liberator by heart, who spent 25 months in prison, and who turned 40 on Thursday, speaking at the Boyaca Bridge monument, says that if there are favorable changes in Venezuela, his Bolivarian Revolutionary Movement, MBR 2000, will enter the electoral contest, but that "if our ideas are not understood, we have recourse to force, not through any fault of ours, but of those who hold power."

With satisfaction as a result of the latest poll, which says that 31 of every 100 Venezuelans who are eligible to vote would vote for him, and the words of a prestigious Venezuelan journalist, "Chavez's little scare had its effect," the ex-colonel, in his impeccable olive green blouse, this week visited the editorial offices of EL TIEMPO.

[EL TIEMPO] Why did you come to Colombia?

[Chavez] We believe that calling a constituent assembly is the only peaceful solution left to Venezuela. Many people in my country tell us that it is an illusion, that they see a Colombian example where the constituent assembly resolved nothing. And we say, wait a moment, we are going to study the Colombian example.

And that is why we are here. To take back Colombia's experience with the National Constituent Assembly. To refute the critics with more evidence. In addition, we were invited by Javeriana University to give a lecture on Bolivarian thought and to launch from Boyaca Bridge the idea that Bolivar had in 1824, to summon a great Inter-American congress.

[EL TIEMPO] Venezuela's Constitution does not provide for a constituent assembly. How do you intend to get around that?

[Chavez] Caldera must call for a referendum, appealing to article four of the Constitution, which says that sovereignty resides in the people. If Congress says that it is unconstitutional, the president, using a measure of forcefulness, could suspend Congress. A step that would probably not be necessary because public opinion supports a constituent assembly. Caldera could also appeal to the Supreme Court.

Our mission is to bring the people into the streets, thousands and thousands of persons in a civic protest, to let the court decide whether the call for a referendum is constitutional. We believe it is a critical path, difficult, but it is the only sure, peaceful path. Everything else verges on violence—a coup d'etat of the elites or a new military rebellion by the young officers. The situation is very tense.

There could be a social explosion at any time. There is a lot of tension. A detail that shames me as a Venezuelan, but must be said, is that the consumption of dog food increased both last year and this year. And it is not that there are so many dogs, but that it has become food for the poor. When we go out for a walk, they ask us harshly why we do not kill the corrupt, "Kill them all...shoot them. They should be killed," they tell us.

This could explode at any time.

[EL TIEMPO] What is the situation in the Armed Forces regarding this tension?

[Chavez] The Armed Forces of today are not the Armed Forces of 1989. We are fragmented, most of the young officers are not going to fire on the people. They would overthrow the government. There would be civil war.

Another scenario is an attempted coup by the military high command. Some generals are already looking at the Chilean model. But if they do that, they are going to come into conflict with us. We will fight them with weapons; with our people who are in the Army itself.

[EL TIEMPO] What does the president think?

[Chavez] Caldera ought to take us into account. We sent him messages some time ago saying that he should take strong measures, but he did not want to listen to us. We took to the streets and asked him for a war economy. He said he would not do it, and three months later he had to do it.

I see no other solution for him but a constituent assembly. If he does not accept this, Caldera will not finish his five years.

We feel confident that we will be able to sensitize the president. Using a very Creole [criollo] term, I said that we had to put a scare into Doctor Caldera. I was asked what I meant by scare, if it was another coup. No, we are not coup practitioners, nor do we want another coup. I am talking about social mobilization.

If the president manages to seize the historic moment, he can go from being the last captain of an old, sinking ship to being the captain of a new vessel.

[EL TIEMPO] Is the situation in Venezuela that bad?

[Chavez] It is dramatic. The prestige of the political parties is like an airplane in free fall, there is election fraud, youths do not trust their leaders, abstentionism is very high, from exporters we have become importers, 60 percent of what we consume is imported, there are 50 deaths each weekend, the people are suffering hunger....

As if this was not enough, the government has no transitional development plan. Where are we going? No one knows. There is a diabolical Ping-Pong game between the legislature and the executive in Venezuela, a game of I suspend, you restore, I suspend again. And it completely ignores the people.

[EL TIEMPO] Would a constituent assembly be the solution?

[Chavez] We are aware that a constituent assembly is not a magic wand, it is not panacea, but it could be a juridical design for a new state. It is not a short-term

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

solution, but it is an opening that gets us out of a system where the traditional parties reign as they please.

[EL TIEMPO] What would you like Venezuela to be?

[Chavez] We want a federal state. The current Constitution says that Venezuela is a federal state, but it is not true, it is centralist. We are asking for a democracy that is more participatory and that has two new powers: moral power and the inclusion of Bolivarian electoral power.

We are asking for sovereignty for the regions, a mixed economy that respects private property and that develops the country's economic resources.

[EL TIEMPO] What does the future hold for MBR 2000?

[Chavez] We are neither leftists nor rightists. We are Bolivarians. The watchword is unite, gather, and advance. In each region there is a coordinating committee of the movement that is trying to create a great Bolivarian hurricane. A hurricane is a meeting of opposing winds that unite at a point that gives them force and direction. Taking this physical phenomenon as an example, we are ready to form a grand alliance.

We want to take on the role of magnet and unify large and small groups to achieve the taking of political power.

[EL TIEMPO] What is your position on the boundary dispute?

[Chavez] I do not believe that the five-person commissions are the solution. A binational referendum should be called, so that it is the people who decide. I am sure that the historical instinct of the people would show itself.

Despite the ultranationalist groups in both countries, who could think about war? I quote Miguel Antonio Caro, who told the world during an episode in which we almost went to war: "No Colombian battalion will cross, the Venezuelan frontier except to offer up its weapons at the birth place of Simon Bolivar." We would say the same thing about San Pedro Alejandrino.

I believe that Colombia and Venezuela should concern themselves more about strengthening their relations. Why not think about a great binational market that goes from the Colombian coast toward the Pacific?

[EL TIEMPO] Finally, do you miss the Army?

[Chavez] I definitely feel great nostalgia for the Army. But I have my uniform on a hangar, clean and ready, because at any moment we could return to the Army. That is not ruled out.

This report contains information which is or may be copyrighted in a number of countries. Therefore, copying and/or further dissemination of the report is expressly prohibited without obtaining the permission of the copyright owner(s).

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735,or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.